A PANTOMIME RETROSPECT. By MARTIN ADESON.

ELSIE CARLISLE
WITH A DIFFERENT STYLE

THE ERA

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WITH A DIFFERENT STYLE

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1921

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THERE'S NO RISE IN THE PRICE OF THE SUNSHINE

I'M GETTING TIRED PLAYING SECOND FIDDLE

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LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE,
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Jan. 10 (week), Whitworth Hall, Drogheda. Jan. 17 (week), Temperance Hall, Tandragee. P.A., Christie House, Staplehill, Bristol.

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"MY SON SAMMY,"
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Four vacant dates this autumn.
Now booking 1922.
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Mr. Percy Hutchison in
"A PAIR OF SIXES."

"LUCK OF THE NAVY."
"GENERAL POST."
Tours opened Christmas.

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MR. W. V. GARROD.
18th consecutive year.
"A RESPECTABLE MARRIED WOMAN," "THE RIGHT TO LIVE," and "ONE LAW FOR BOTH."
Vacant Feb. 14, 21, March 7, 14.
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EMPLOYMENT AGENCY LICENCES.

I, RALPH HIBBERD, known as the Secretary of the Southern Section of the Co-operative Union, Ltd., intend to apply to the London County Council for a Licence to carry on an Employment Agency for Theatrical and Variety Artists at No. 66, Great Prescott-street, London, E. 1, such Agency to be known as the Southern Co-operative Entertainment Agency.

All Objections, and the grounds therefor, must be submitted in writing to the Clerk of the Council, County Hall, Spring-gardens, S.W. 1, within 14 days from the date of publication of this advertisement.

(Signed) RALPH HIBBERD,
Secretary.
Dated this 10th day of January, 1921.

TRAINING SCHOOL LICENCES.

I, FLORENCE ADA CLAYTON, known as FLORRIE LEWIS, intend to apply to the London County Council for a licence to carry on a training school for Dancers at No. 50, Vanbrugh-park, Blackheath, S.E. 3, such training school to be known as the Florrie Lewis Academy of Dancing.

All objections, and the grounds therefor, must be submitted in writing to the Clerk of the Council, County Hall, Spring-gardens, S.W. 1, within fourteen days from the date of publication of this advertisement.

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Arrangements complete.
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Jan. 10, Grand, Wolverhampton; Jan. 17, Cheltenham and Oxford.

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Cost of maintenance of Benevolent Institution (about), £3 5s.
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PREPAID.
DISPLAYED LINES, 1s. EACH.

ARTISTS, MUSICIANS, AND OTHERS SEEKING ENGAGEMENTS,
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This Scale does not apply to Trade Advertisements in these Columns.

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Advertisement Manager, "The Era,"
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Wire, "The Era, London."
Ring up, 4546 and 4547 Regent.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, West-End Attractions.
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GRAND THEATRE, LUTON.
March 7, June 27, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY.
Jan. 31, Feb. 21, March 7, on.
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The only theatre. "Be Careful, Baby," finished to £84 7s. 6d.; "A Pair of Silk Stockings" opened to £58 8s.
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No Dramas or Revues.
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First Vacant Date, May 9.
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WANTED, First-class Once-Nightly Companies, March 28,
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Nov. 14,
and on, with exceptions.
Also good Twice-Nightly Companies,
June 6, 13, and 20,
July 4 and 11.
NO REVUES.
Theatre visited by Sir J. Martin Harvey (two visits), D'Oyly Carte Opera Co. (many visits), O'Mara Opera Co. (five visits), Allington Charsley Opera Co. (three visits), "Peter Pan," "Kissing Time," "The Young Person in Pink," "Romance" (return), "French Leave," "Paddy the Next Best Thing," "The Right to Strike," "The Maid of the Mountains" (third visit), "Lord Richard in the Pantry," "The Catch of the Season," "With Allenby in Palestine," Raynor Repertory Co. (four visits), all H. B. Levy's Co.'s (many visits), F. G. Lloyd's Co.'s, "Toto," "The Girl in the Taxi" (three visits), "The Quaker Girl" (four visits), "Nothing But the Truth," "The Naughty Wife," "Fair and Warmer," "Scandal," "The Kiss Call," Hero Hatherway and V. A. Baron, and all the principal Twice-Nightly Attractions.

Address as above. No Wires.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, DOVER-COURT, ESSEX.
WANTED, good Companies, Jan. 17, 24, Musical Comedy, Revue, or Rep. Drama. Wire for Jan. 17. MANAGER.

Grand Theatre.
Wellington, Salop.
WANTED, First-class West-End Attractions. Jan. 17, and few Spring and Autumn dates.
Write immediately,
WRIGHT,
Grand Theatre, Wellington, Salop.

WANTED, First-class Companies for Reading, March 7, 21.
Chester, Feb. 14.
Northampton, March 7 and 14.
Leicester, Feb. 28 and March 21.
MILTON BODE, Theatre, Reading.

THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.
WANTED, for April 4 (only vacancy this side of Oct.), First-class Attraction.
Apply, J. E. BULL, above.

MARGATE, HIPPODROME.
WANTED, First-class London Attractions, for July, Aug., and Sept.
A. E. ABRAHAMS, 73, Romford-road, Stratford, E. 15.

WINTER GARDENS, NEW BRIGHTON.
WANTED, Attraction, Jan. 31, to oblige Mr. W. W. Kelly.
Also Feb. 14 may be vacant.
Apply, A. DOUGLAS,

WANTED, Pantos., Revues, and sound Attractions, Monday, Jan. 17, 24, 31, Feb. 14, 28. Good Panto. date. Refer Leo Leon, Ventom Swift, Josh Clifton, Levy and Cardwell, Teddy Furneau, re business done.
My own Panto. share never less than £200, and plays twice each season.
30 sets of limes, good stage, and band.
Capacity, with matinée, over £400.
Dis. pop. over 100,000.
Modern dressing-rooms, with all conveniences attached for forty artists.
Wire, JACK ARNOLD,
Victoria, Lye.

WANTED, for Two of the Largest Provincial Theatres, weeks of Feb. 14 and 21. No. 1 Companies of latest West-End Musical Comedy or Farcical Productions.
Also for No. 1 Lancashire Town, Feb. 28, May 9, 16, 23, 30, and June 27.
and Big East Anglia Town, May 9 and 16.

Full details, including date sheets, showing past and future bookings, essential.
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Please note that only latest West-End successes can be entertained.

COMPANIES WANTED.

ARTHUR CARLTON'S THEATRES.
WANTED, Companies.
THEATRE ROYAL, WORCESTER, vacant Jan. 24, March 7, 28 (?), Sept. 5 (?), 19 (?), Oct. 3 (?), 10 (?), Nov. 14 (?), 28 (?), and on.
THEATRE ROYAL, BATH, vacant, May 16, June 6, 20, July, Aug. 1, 8 (?), 15, Sept. 12 (?), 19 (?), Oct. 10 (?), Nov. 7 (?), 28 (?), Dec. 5 (?), and on.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBORO', vacant Dec. 30, Jan. 13, 27, Feb. 17, 24, March 17, April 7, 21, May 12, 26, June 2.
Good Panto. for Jan. 3, write in.
THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY, Spring and Autumn Vacancies.
All other communications to ARTHUR CARLTON, Colehurst, Worcester.

H. W. ROWLAND'S BOOKING CIRCUIT.
WANTED, High-class Attractions,
D.P. THEATRE, EASTBOURNE,
Jan. 31, April 11, 18.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS,
Jan. 31, May 30, June 6.
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE,
May 16, June 13.
PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE,
Jan. 31, Feb. 28, March 7, 14.
PALACE THEATRE, MAIDSTONE,
April 25, May 16, 23.
(Twice nightly.)
London Representative for W. W. Kelly and Opera House, Blackpool.

Apply, 52, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.
Regent 1651. "Topobill, Piccy, London."

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WANTED, FIRST-CLASS ATTRACTIONS, once or twice nightly, May 30, on, with exceptions. HUGH ROBERTSON, Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.

(Once nightly.)
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NEW THEATRE, BOSTON.
(Proprietors, Boston Scala Theatre, Ltd.)
The Theatre with THE LARGEST HOLDING CAPACITY IN BOSTON OR DISTRICT, and an up-to-date one. Band, Dressing-rooms, Lighting, &c. Can stage any Company.
WANTED, COMPANIES FOR IMMEDIATE DATES.
COMPANIES FOR IMMEDIATE DATES.
Visits include "Paddy the Next Best Thing," "My Sweetheart," "Eliza Comes to Stay," "Betty," "Who's Hooper?" Toto," "Three Wise Fools," "Milestones," "Arcadians," "Naughty Wife," "Romance," "Silver King," "The Ruined Lady," "A Temporary Gentleman," "Maid of the Mountains," "Peg o' My Heart." Record Biz. last week with "Paddy the Next Best Thing" and "The Maid of the Mountains," "The Young Person in Pink," "Tiger, Tiger," &c.
Write, with sharing terms, to
WILL DALTON,
57, Parsonage-road, Withington, Manchester. 'Phone, 193, Didsbury.
Telegraph, "Granbeste, Manchester."

WANTED, for big South Coast Music Hall, Feb. 14, 21, and 28. West-End Musical Comedies or Revues only. Must have London reputation, otherwise useless.
Full details, including date-sheets, showing past and future bookings, essential.
HORSFIELD'S AGENCY,
Suites 21 and 22, 26, Charing Cross-W.C. 2.

THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
THEATRE ROYAL, PLYMOUTH.
Feb. 11 might be vacant. This date is not absolutely free, as the pantomime is playing to £1,600 a week.

ONCE NIGHTLY ONLY.
ONCE NIGHTLY ONLY.
ONCE NIGHTLY ONLY.

WANTED, First-class Attraction.
First-class Attraction.
Apply,
J. M. GLOVER, 19, Sackville-street, W.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, Big Attraction for first or last three nights of Jan. 31 week.
Apply, H. W. ROWLAND,
52, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.
Regent 1651. "Topobill, Piccy, London."

PAVILION, TORQUAY.
General Manager for the Corporation, Chas. G. Price.
WANTED, Good Attractions, Feb. 14, 28; March 7; April 11.
Also a few Summer dates.
Apply, MANAGER.

GRAND THEATRE, OLDHAM.
WANTED, Brilliant No. 1 Attractions, Musical or Stars only.
Easter Week, March 28, May 2 (?).
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE, "Merivale," Clifton-drive, St. Annes-on-Sea.

EGBERT'S AGENCY, LIMITED.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Revues, Musical Comedies, &c.
January 31, onward.
Fullest particulars, terms, where playing, to 17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

PALACE THEATRE, BATTERSEA.
Vacant Jan. 24 and onward.
Vacant Jan. 24 and onward.
Vacant Jan. 24 and onward.
WANTED,
PANTOMIME,
REVUE,
or
FIRST-CLASS DRAMAS,
Wires, FREDERICK BAUGH,
Tel. address, "Stageyness, London."
'Phone, 1652 Battersea.

WINTER GARDEN PAVILION, TEIGNMOUTH.
WANTED, Feb. 7, onwards.
First-class Productions.
Apply,
POOLE, Empire, Newton Abbot.

For other Companies Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

THEATRES WANTED.

DADDALUMS.
WANTED, Theatres,
Feb. 28, March 14, 28, onwards, with exceptions.

DADDALUMS.
A. MELVILLE, Wyndham's T., W.C.

Unexpectedly Vacant
Through Transfer.
Through Transfer.
WANTED,
Jan. 24,
for
"THREE WEEKS."
"THREE WEEKS."
"THREE WEEKS."
Jan. 24.
Wire,
"Vinticon, Rand, London."
Write,
LEON VINT,
142, Long Acre, W.C. 2.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED,
Jan. 24
(between Torquay and London)
for
"HIS LITTLE WIDOWS,"
"HIS LITTLE WIDOWS,"
"HIS LITTLE WIDOWS,"
"HIS LITTLE WIDOWS,"
"HIS LITTLE WIDOWS,"
the New Musical Comedy from Wyndham's Theatre, London.

Cast and Production equal to any Touring Show.

Once or twice nightly.

WALTER PASKIN,
this, Hippo., Devonport;
next, O.H., Torquay.

MOLLISON KIDD and OWEN BAXTER'S COMPANY in
"DADDIES."
"DADDIES."
"DADDIES."
"DADDIES."
"DADDIES."
"DADDIES."
From the Haymarket Theatre.

Spring Tour fully booked.

Two or three Autumn dates still open.

Bookings include Penge, Maidstone, Dewsbury, Bury, Woolwich, Chatham, Richmond, Croydon, Grimsby, Huddersfield, Gloucester, Bath, Exeter, Torquay, Boscombe, Hastings, Folkestone, Weston-super-Mare, Eastbourne, Hastings, Buxton, Ilkley, Bridlington, Clacton, Southsea, Brighton, Bognor, Worthing, Watford, Peterboro', Liverpool, Derby, Wakefield, Warrington, Blackpool, Hull, &c.

WANTED, Aug. 1, 22, Sept. 12, Dec. 26.
Also Spring dates, 1922.

Apply, ARTHUR T. BARUGH,
this week, Empire, Penge, London;
next week, Palace Theatre, Maidstone.

"TWO LITTLE DRUMMER BOYS."
By Walter Howard.
WANTED, Jan. 31, to follow Mexboro'; can change bill for a big night.
Splendid production.
S. RENNEF, 109, Brighton-road, Gateshead-on-Tyne; next, Hippo., Mexboro'.

The Grand Pantomime,
"LITTLE JACK HORNER."
WANTED, large Theatres, Jan. 24, 31, Wales or Midlands or Lancs.
A Big Show.
Managers can see it this week at Weston-super-Mare. I guarantee one of the best touring Pantos. on the road.
I do not mind journey if we can take the money.
Address, DESMOND,
Halls Productions,
Palace Theatre, Weston-super-Mare.
Next week, Opera House, Treherbert, Glam., Wales.

WANTED, Jan. 24.
Wanted, Jan. 24, between Wednesbury and Whitehaven, for MISS GLADYS BANFORD'S Gorgeous Pantomime,
"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."
Company of 34 carried.
Enormous success last week, Pavilion, Rhyl. Refer to W. J. Jones, Esq., who says, "A splendid show. More than satisfied."
This week, Hippo., Bilston (refer Fred Rothery Ellis).
Next week, Hippo., Wednesbury.
All coms., BERT MORRIS, Esq.

"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."
"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."
"THE SIGN OF THE CROSS."
WANTED,
Jan. 17 and Feb. 14.
Jan. 17 and Feb. 14.
Jan. 17 and Feb. 14.
(North preferred.)

April 4 (?),
(Midlands.)

Only vacancies till Autumn.

WILLIAM MACLAREN,
Theatre Royal, Whitehaven.

JACK GOODSON'S "HULLO, AMERICA!" Company.
(In Seven Scenes.)

WANTED, Jan. 24 and 31, Feb. 14, 21, and 28.
Played to over £1,000 nett takings at Empire, Kingston, last week.

Communications to
JACK GOODSON,
26, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.
Telephone, Gerrard 3390
Telegrams,
"Goodsonism-Westrand-London."

Or to Percival Selby,
Mouillot's Offices.

"ROMANCE."
WANTED, Aug. 22, Oct. 17, 24, 31, Nov. 28, Spring, 1922.
"THE YOUNG PERSON IN PINK."
Vacant May 16, May 16, May 16, Autumn, 1921, with few exceptions.
Apply to G. MAYOR COOKE,
11, Gerrard-street, W. 1.

WANTED, Jan. 24, 31, on.
"DICK WHITTINGTON."
35 Artists.
Wire, HARRY JOSEPH,
Marina Theatre, South Shields.

WANTED,
Feb. 14.
Feb. 14.
Feb. 14.
"A WEEK-END."
"A WEEK-END."
"A WEEK-END."
Only other vacancies,
April 4,
May 23,
Aug. 1, 8,
Oct. 3, 10.
W. W. ELLIS,
44, Carlton-hill,
London, N.W. 8.

Walter Stanley's Pantomime.
"THE HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT."
WANTED, Jan. 31 (follow Derby).
HAROLD WAGNER, Crown Theatre, Eccles.

THEATRES' WANTED.

MR. CHARLES HAWTREY'S Famous Farcical Comedy,
"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
Now playing to capacity business at the Aldwych Theatre, London.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, March 21.
April 11 (three nights), April 18, 25.
May 2.
July 18, 25.
Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

MR. BRANDON-THOMAS'S COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
Now playing to crowded houses at the Prince's Theatre, London.

WANTED, First-class Theatres, April 4, 11, 18.
July 11, 18 (3 nights), and 25.
Address, CECIL BARTH,
37, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

WANTED, Monday Next, Jan. 17 (through mistake),
BERT GRAPHO'S
"DICK WHITTINGTON" PANTO.
Great production. Eleven scenes.
Refer: G. W. Bell, Esq., Theatre Royal, Hyde; E. H. Page, Esq., P.T., Blackburn; H. Masterman, Esq., T.R., Castleford.
Cast includes: Bert Grapho, Jack Edwin, Ermie Miller, Albert Wood, Nat Leo, Hartle Thompson, Harry Whitty, Wee Jack Grapho (What a Lad!), Jollie Dollie Barrie, Elsie Denham, Hilda Gibson, Connie Wyse, Una Harvey, Jollity Girls, &c.
Full Whittington Chorus.
Wire,
BERT GRAPHO,
New Theatre Royal,
Castleford.
Or private address,
88, Leed-road.

WANTED, No. 1 Theatres and Music Halls only, for the following attractions:—
"BUZZ-BUZZ."
The Successful Vaudeville Theatre Production.
March 7, 14; April 4, 11; May 16.

"THE GIRL FROM CIRO'S."
The entire Garrick Theatre production carried.
Feb. 28, March 7, 28, April 18, and May 16.

Wanted, Jan. 24, 31; Feb. 14, 21, 28; March 7, 14, and 21; and various dates on, for one of the latest West End Musical Comedy Successes.

Wanted, Jan. 17 (between Brighton and Torquay), Jan. 31, Feb. 14, 28, March 7, 21, onwards, for London productions of both farce and comedy.

Also dates from Feb. 14 for several good-class revues, recognised London successes.

Managers of No. 1 theatres and music halls only are requested to write, giving vacant dates and requirements.

W. FOSTER HORSFIELD, Suite 21 and 22, 26, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.
Telephone, Gerrard 7167.

Wagner and Stanley's Company.
"THE NEW BARMAID."
WANTED, Feb. 14 (precede Barnsley), HAROLD WAGNER,
Crown Theatre, Eccles, Lancs.

Through Double Booking.
WANTED, MONDAY, NEXT, JANUARY 17,
JACK McKENZIE'S
"CINDERELLA."
Over 40 artists.
Business simply wonderful.
Broke my own records at Derby and Kidderminster.
Vacant Jan. 17, also 31; and Feb. 21.
"ROBINSON CRUSOE,"
Vacant Jan. 31.
Wire,
Opera House, Leamington.

MONDAY NEXT.
MONDAY NEXT.
WANTED, Monday next for the great comedy show,
"NEXT, PLEASE."
"NEXT, PLEASE."
Wire for Jan. 17, and Feb. 7.
Thanks, Mr. Gilbert, Aberdeen, for transferring Jan. 17.
Wire,
JOHNNY McELROY,
Theatre, Lye.

T. C. WRAY'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, First-class Theatres.
"Blue Lagoon," May 16, Midlands.
"Yes, Uncle," March 28, May 2.
"Kissing Time," April 11, South.
T. C. WRAY, 28, Floral-st., W.C. 3121 Regent
"THE VERY IDEA" (De Courville Production). With London Star.
WANTED, March 28, April 11, 25, May 9, 16. HALDANE CRICHTON, 4, Park-place, St. James's.

Miss Violet Luddington's Co. in
"THE YELLOW TICKET."
WANTED, Feb. 14, 21, and 28, to follow Opera House, Blackpool, owing to transferring of dates. All communications, EDWARD CRANSTON, 19, Sackville-street, Piccadilly, W.

The Play Everyone is Talking About.
"THE JEFFERSONS."
Wilfred Shine in his Original Character.
WANTED, March 7.
Only vacancy until Sept. 5, week.
Fifth year of tour. 1,250th performance.
Apply, ALBERT DOUGLASS,
Winter Gardens, New Brighton.

MESSRS. JAMES AND STILLWELL'S COMPANIES.
"A WHITE MAN'S WAY."
"A WHITE MAN'S WAY."
By Clifford Rean.
WANTED, Jan. 24, to precede Palace, Watford. Change of bill where required. JAMES STILLWELL, Grand T., Pentre. Next, Vivian T., Resolven, S. Wales.

WANTED, First-class Theatres.
JACK GOODSON CO.
"OH, JULIE!" from Shaftesbury Theatre,
Jan. 17, Feb. 28, March 28, April 11, and few Autumn.
"THE GIRL FOR THE BOY," from Duke of York's Theatre,
Feb. 21, March 7 (South), May 16, and few Autumn.
"HULLO AMERICA!" from Palace Theatre.
Jan. 24, Feb. 14, and a few later and Autumn.
Apply, THE FREDK. MOUILLOT OFFICES, 7, and 8, Leicester-place, London, W.C. 2

THEATRES WANTED.

R. AND W. AINSLEY
present
"THE MOVIE MAID."
"THE MOVIE MAID."
"THE MOVIE MAID."
"THE MOVIE MAID."
"THE MOVIE MAID."
"THE MOVIE MAID."

The Great Novelty Revue.

WANTED, Monday Next.

30,000 people saw this show at the T.R., Smethwick, New Year's Week.

Last week's opinion at Tivoli, Manchester, including Mr. Ashworth's best show seen here:—
"There is more material in this show than in half-a-dozen others."

Refer: Lyric, Liverpool; T.R., Smethwick; Tiv., Manchester.

Then Wire for Monday Next
to
AINSLEY,
Hippo., Loughborough.

"PEG O' MY HEART."
"PEG O' MY HEART."
"PEG O' MY HEART."
"PEG O' MY HEART."

WANTED,
January 17, 18, 19.
January 17, 18, 19.
January 17, 18, 19.
(Printing ready.)

Jan. 31 (?); Feb. 21.

"BETTY."
"BETTY."
"BETTY."
"BETTY."

WANTED—Aug. 1; Sept. 19.

RALLAND,
16, Broad-court, Bow-street, W.C. 2.
Gerrard 1280.

WANTED, Theatres, once or twice nightly, for
"THE ROTTERS."
Jan. 31,
Feb. 7, to follow Woolwich.
March 14, April 11 (3 nights), April 25, May 2.
ARTHUR GIBBONS, 1, King-street, W.C 2. 4486 Regent.

THE LEONARD LAURENCE COMPANY.
WANTED, Jan. 31 and Feb. 7.
Large and varied repertoire of high-class Plays.
Wire for Monday. Wire for Monday.
LAURENCE,
This, Empire, Egremont. Next, King's Oswestry.

Wheeler, Ralland & Lewis Williams' Co.
"THE BOY."

"THE BOY."

"THE BOY."

"THE BOY."

Principal Company, including
Edward Lewis,

WANTED, Feb. 28 (follow Brixton); March 28, also few Autumn vacancies.

16, Broad-court, Bow-street, W.C. 2.
Gerrard 1280.

For other Theatres Wanted see Displayed Wanted Section.

ARTISTS WANTED.

BERESFORD
and
PEARCE,
Hippodrome Buildings,
Manchester.

WANTED,
Good
SOUBRETTE.

Also
CHORUS LADIES
and
DANCERS,

For New Production.

Send photo with full particulars.

Mr. Beresford will be at the National Hotel, Upper Bedford-place, Russell-square, on Thursday and Friday.

WANTED, at once, abroad, Lady Instrumentalists and Vocalists. Must have substantial capital (not for investment). Fullest particulars to Box 303, "The Era."

WANTED by Artist, Young Lady as Model, for a few months, from February, at £4 4s. weekly. Applicant must be of very good appearance, and must possess hair at least 36 inches long. Apply, enclosing photo., to Box 282, "The Era."

WANTED, immediately, a Comedian, to play part and do eccentric dance or other speciality. GORDON & BLERIOT, Victory Theatre, Ripley, Derbyshire.

WANTED, Cinema Artists, all lines, for important British productions; photos essential. SIDNEY JAY'S AGENCY, 181, Wardour-st., W. 1. 'Phone, Regent 4329.

WANTED, experienced Partners in Costume Dancing, for West-End restaurants. Apply, NEWMAN ORCHESTRAL AGENCY, 67, Newman-street, W. 1.

ARTISTS' WANTS.

WANTED Known, that versatile singing banjoist and dramatic actor, Ralph Vernon, having returned from a tour in Australia, is now open for engagements, cinemas, dances, parties, theatricals, &c. c/o "The Era."

WANTED, by refined schott., high-kicking, and all-round Dancer, revue, C. P., or willing to join M. H. act. Wire or write, ESTELLA, 59, Melbourne-street, Clayton, Manchester.

WANTED, by a first-class Acrobatic Comedian; original funny falls and comedy tricks; 9 months South Africa, playing Alfred Leister's part, "Bing Boys," also Dan Thomas's revues and panto.; Black Face my speciality. Wire, BASIL SCOTT, General Post Office, Birmingham.

PANTOMIME ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Prin. Girl, Smart Youth for Cat, make himself useful. Carpenter, must know and do his work. M. D., Pianist, must arrange. Coms.,
HY. JOSEPH,
69, Winchester-street, South Shields.

CINEMA EMPLOYMENT.

WANTED, experienced Cinema Operator, qualified Electrician, who can undertake the duties of Stage Manager when not in picture season; permanent post for steady young man. Apply, stating terms, to MANAGER, Victory Theatre, Ripley, Derbyshire.

AMATEURS, PUPILS, &c., WANTED.

WANTED, Amateurs, Aspirants, before going elsewhere, write (stamp), call, any afternoon. MR. D'ALBERT, 3, Stansfield-road, Stockwell-rd., S.W. 9.

WANTED, Singers, all styles. Shows written and produced. 200 Clients appearing. Established 25 years (Stamp), call, D'ALBERT, above.

WANTED, Aspirants, interview free, Singing, Elocution, and Stage Dancing taught; engagements provided. If you mean business, call, write, or 'phone Museum 6580. FRANK PERRY, Theatrical Agent, 201a, High Holborn.

WANTED Known, Successful West-End Actor, willing to take one or two really promising pupils. Salaried engagement guaranteed in forthcoming provincial production. Small premium required. Exceptional opportunity for talented lady or gentleman. Write, Box A8795, J. C. FRANCIS AND CO., 131, Fleet-street, E.C. 4.

WANTED, good talented Amateurs, vocal and instrumental, to prepare for Ballad Company, under experienced Manager. Address, Box 314, "The Era."

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Manager, competent, Midland Picture House; undeniable references essential. State full particulars, when disengaged, and salary required. A. FLYNN, Bank House Farm, Bickford, Penkridge, Staffs.

WANTED, Manager, Competent; Midland Picture House; undeniable references essential. State full particulars, when disengaged, and salary required. A. FLYNN, Bank House Farm, Bickford, Penkridge, Staffs.

WANTED, immediately, for London and tour, absolutely first-class Carpenter and Cabinet Maker; long engagement; must be young, smart appearance; tall men need not apply. Apply by letter only, stating height, wages, &c., to DE BIERE, c/o Gosdens, 11, Henrietta-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

WANTED, Billposter; good wages and permanency for fully qualified man. THE GENERAL BILLPOSTING CO., LTD., Pink-lane, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, First-class Billposter. Apply, stating wages and references, to ROOKLEY'S, LTD., Talbot-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, Man to help in Theatrical Wardrobe; permanent. Apply, JOHN HYMAN, 29, Leicester-square, W.C.

WANTED, Scenic Artists, to know that Leete's hold a large stock of Scenic Colours, Brushes, &c. Write for Catalogue. A. LEETE & CO., 129, London-road, Southwark, S.E. 1.

WANTED Known, Scenic Artist, at liberty, to touch up, repaint, all kinds scenery; provinces, or at own London studio; quick worker. Terms mod. D. BARKER, 85, Brandon-street, London, S.E. 17.

WANTED Known, Floor Manager, at liberty; excellent refs. for acrobatic specialities: floor control. 5, Stoney Rock-road, Leeds.

WANTED Known, W. C. BURNS, vacant Management, Theatre, Variety, Picts., or Road Show Pilot. Unique knowledge of United Kingdom. I succeed where others fail. Expert Pressman, Advertiser, and Motorist. Tophole Personality and Elocutionist. Now ended a total of 14 years' Agent-General for Bostock & Wombwell's Road Shows. Other refs., Messrs. Broadhead, Hulme Hipp., and Macnaghten Circuit, &c.; abstainer; well up in books and accounts. 65, Yew Tree-lane, South Yardley, Birmingham.

WANTED Known, Dancing Master, act as M.C., Floor or Ballroom Manager, late White City and Spa Ballroom, Scarborough, at liberty.
Write or wire, STAINFORTH ELSTON,
Manchester Hotel,
Queen-street, Scarborough.

WANTED, exp. Lady Shorthand-Typist; one used to Variety work preferred. Apply, Box 323, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Operator; experienced; disengaged; good refs.; M.G.D.C.). 1, Norcot-rise, Tilehurst, Reading.

WANTED,
Position as Assistant Operator.
Box 298, "The Era."

WANTED, Music Arranger. Apply to FRANK PERRY, Theatrical and Variety Agent, 201a, High Holborn, W.C.

WANTED, Composers to submit Foxtrots, waltzes, One-Steps, for Publication. KINGSWAY CO., 4, Parton-street, W.C. 1.

WANTED Known, Authors wishing to place MSS. on the market should forward Film Plays, Stories, Articles, Novels, &c., to THE DIRECTOR (C.A.), 8, Lloyd-square, London, W.C. 1.

To Playwrights and Authors.
WANTED Known, Typewriting taken at shortest notice; terms moderate. MISS BOUVIER, 180, Ladbroke-grove, W. 10.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, immediately, Pianist-Conductor; must be good man, able to arrange band parts. State lowest. Can arrange joint. PALLISER, Palace, Dedby.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL,
FALMOUTH.

WANTED, to commence Monday, April 24, capable Violinist-Conductor, with good library. Also Pianist, for a small band; joint or separate; Pictures and Variety; twice nightly; one matinée; comfortable and permanent engagement to right people. Apply, stating age, salary, and refetences, to MANAGER.

WANTED Known, Music on Hire for Cinemas, &c. Apply, W. S. CUDDEFORD, 77, Kelmscott-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.

PIÉNA EXPERTS IN CINEMA MUSIC AND ORCHESTRAS. COVERS

The following numbers are orchestrated for Salon Orchestra, consisting of Piano Conductor, Harmonium, two First Violins, Violin Obbligata, 'Cello, Bass Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Cornet, Bass Trombone, and Drums:—

SAKUNTALA, Overture by GOLDMARK.
Complete, 3/6. Extra P.C. or H., 10d. E.P., 6d.

SONATE, in A minor, by SCHUBERT.
Complete, 2/6. P.C. or H., 8d. E.P., 4d.

WINTER TIME, by SCHUMANN.
Complete, 1/6. P.C. or H., 6d. E.P., 3d.

THE STORM ON PLATTENSEE, by MIHALY.
Complete, 3/-. P.C. or H., 8d. E.P., 4d

VALSE TRISTE, by FRANZ von VECSEY.
Complete, 1/6. P.C. or H., 6d. E.P., 3d.

MUSIC 55, HIGH ST., NEW OXFORD ST., W.C.2. STRINGS
'Phone Gerrard 7236.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, thoroughly experienced Lady Repetiteur, permanency, London restaurant. Box 317, "The Era."

WANTED, for first-class pictures, First Violinist (Repetiteur), A.M.U. terms, £5 14s. with matinees. Trombonist, £5 9s. 6d., comfortable, permanency for a reliable performer. Apply with references to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, 95, Stockton-road, West Hartlepool.

WANTED, Good Leader, Rep., 'Cello, Bassoon, &c., used to variety. Terms and last two refs. to MUS. DIR., Empire, Longton, Staffs.

THEATRE ROYAL, PONTYPOOL (MON.)

WANTED, to open at once, or when at liberty, first-class Violin (Leader), for twice-nightly music hall; must be used to varieties. Age, terms, references, and state when at liberty, to GEORGE HENRY PITT, as above.

WANTED, Leaders and 'Cellists (ladies), for restaurants in the West End. Apply, NEWMAN ORCHESTRAL AGENCY, 67, Newman-street, W. 1.

WANTED, to open Jan. 24, first-class Orchestral Leader for Trio; standard overtures; Tavan and Alder Trios. State terms. Apply, with references, ROYAL CINEMA DE LUXE, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, Leader Violin. Apply, refs., terms, &c., to R. GRISENTHWAITE, Globe Cinema, Victoria-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, through disappointment, 1st-class Leader (Violin), also Drummer with effects. Must give audition afternoon or evening. MUS. DIR., "Queen's Hall" Cinema, Rushey Green, Catford, S.E.

WANTED immediately, Leader Violinist, evenings, lady or gent. Call 11 a.m., 71, Oldhill-st., Clapton. No letters.

WANTED, first-class Leader-Violinist; open Jan. 17; exper. all lines; permanency. Sal., refs. to W. SMART, M.D., St. John's Theatre, Warwick.

WANTED, first-class Lady Violiniste (Leader) and 'Celliste, with good broad tone; soloist preferred; used to Tavan and Alder arrangements; seaside cinema. State lowest terms for permanency. Box 285, "The Era."

WANTED, a brilliant Violin-Leader for West End Hotel; salary £15 to £20; also Violin-Leader and Flute for India. Apply, ALFRED RIESS, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

WANTED, first-class Violinist (leader), for cinema; 4½ hours daily, no Sunday; must be skilled artist and used to Tavan and Alder's arrangements; duds come at own risk. DUDLEY HAMILTON, Director of Music, Castle Cinema, Cardiff.

WANTED, First Violin, Mile End Cinema, 44, Mile End-rd., E. 1. Call with instrument any time after 2 o'clock.

WANTED, First Violin; Pictures and Variety; twice nightly; one mat.; open Monday next. Terms, MANAGER, Blake's Theatre, Hitchin.

WANTED, immediately, half-dozen First Violins, in the North; only experienced men entertained. Apply, SIGNOR PEPI, Hippodrome, Darlington.

WANTED, at First-class Variety Halls, Newport Empire, First Violin.
Edinburgh Empire, Repetiteur.
Cardiff Olympia (pictures and variety), 'Cellist.
Applicants must be experienced and thoroughly competent. Write, with full particulars, references, &c., to the MUSICAL DIRECTOR at the above-mentioned hall.

WANTED, Boy Violinist, if possible one who can dance, as prospective turn. Apply, "VIOLINIST," 73, Romford-road, Stratford, E. 15.

HIPPODROME, WISBECH, CAMB.
WANTED, Violinist and Pianist, open Monday next, Jan. 17; used to Pictures and Varieties; would entertain smart married couple. Apply, with terms and references, to H. BANCROFT (as above).

WANTED, first-class Violinist and 'Cellist for West-End Café. Apply, GRAY, 12, Archer-street, Piccadilly, W., 12 till 1 daily.

WANTED, first-class Violinist, for cinema. Apply, 11 a.m., COLISEUM, 396, Mile End-road, E. 1.

WANTED, Experienced Violinist, accustomed to playing with trio; six nights weekly, 6 to 10 p.m. (approx.). References and terms, KNOWLES, 39, Robin Hood-road, Brentwood, Essex.

WANTED, first-class Violinists for London cinema, also good Drummer for South Coast town; must be experienced in high-class programmes; audition Thursday morning, 10.30. CHARLES MORTIMER, Holloway Empire, N.

WANTED, good First Cornet for Hippodrome, St. Helens, to open Monday next; A.M.U. Terms £3 10s. State age. J. WHITELOCK, Musical Adviser, Argyle Theatre, Birkenhead.

WANTED, Solo Cornet, experienced in first-class variety. State terms, with refs., to E. WINTER, Manager, Empire, South Shields.

WANTED, young Clarinet; must be good player; preference given to one who is good orchestral pianist; A.M.U. terms £3 10s. Refs., &c., to HORACE TEAGUE, Opera House, Cheltenham.

WANTED, open immediately, Double Bass and First Violin; experienced variety, &c. MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Empire, Ebbw Vale.

WANTED, flat pitch Xylophone. J. DEXTER, 124, Warwick-st., Heaton, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, 'Cellist, to join Quartette for morning practises with view to Cinema Engagements. Apply, Friday, between 11 and 1 o'clock. GORDON HOUSE STUDIOS, 59, Shepherd's Bush-road, W. 6.

WANTED, capable, experienced 'Cellist; matinée daily and one house nightly. State terms. PRINCESS PICTURE THEATRE, Colwyn Bay.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, imm. for Super Cinema, good exp. 'Cello and Bass; approx. hours five; no Sundays; good salary and perm. to right man. Terms, &c., L. GREEN, M. D., Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.

HIPPODROME, REIGATE, SURREY.
WANTED, 'Cellist, open Monday next, Jan. 17; Pictures only; evenings. Apply, H. BANCROFT, as above.

WANTED, good 'Cellist, also Repet. Violin, for high-class Picture House, P.C.T. Circuit; best hall in district. Terms, 'Cello £6, Violin £5. Will former applicants also write in? Engagement open through illness in both cases. Send refs. and state date can open, to CONDUCTOR, Court Kinema, Darlington.

WANTED, to open January 17, first-class Solo 'Cellist, used to Tavan, &c., for Trio, evenings and pictures only; good wages. Apply, MANAGER, Coliseum, Goole.

WANTED, first-class 'Cellist for high-class continuous cinema. Good salary and permanency to first-class man. Apply, G. BURGAN, Picture House, Ocean-road, South Shields.

WANTED, an exp. 'Cellist, to start Jan. 17. Call with 'cello for audition, not after 1 p.m., The Grand Palace, Poplar.

WANTED, good 'Cellist (lady or gent.). Audition Thursday morning, 12 o'clock. BROCKLEY PALLADIUM, Brockley, S.E. 4.

WANTED, 'Cellist (gent.); open Jan. 17, for high-class Gravesend Cinema. Apply, M. D.,
106, Pelham-road, Gravesend.

WANTED, first-class 'Cellist, for cinema. Apply, 11 a.m., COLISEUM, 396, Mile End-road, E. 1.

WANTED, 'Cellist, youth who wants first-class orchestral experience; London engagement. Apply, Box 319, "The Era."

WANTED, 'Cellist, gentleman, must be competent player, for London Engagement; 5½ hours daily, no Sundays; terms £3 15s. Apply, Box 318, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class 'Cellist, for Cinema Orchestra; Provinces. Apply, stating qualifications and salary required, Box 241, "The Era."

WANTED, First-class 'Cellist, for Cinema, to commence at once. Apply, MR. MYERS, Manager, Electric Coliseum, 31, Stoke Newington-road, N. 16.

ROYAL PICTURE HOUSE, ROTHERHAM.
WANTED, First-class 'Cellist (A.M.U.), for Sextette, to open Monday, Jan. 24, six nights and two matinées each week. Capable musicians only need apply, stating salary and references, to E. B. IBBOTSON, Manager.

WANTED, 'Cellist, to deputise every Tuesday and Friday evening in the Blue Halls, Hammersmith. Apply, M. D.

WANTED, 'Cellist, big tone, for cinema, N.W.; good salary. Apply, Box 269, "The Era."

WANTED, Oboe and Bassoon Players to see advt. under "Wanted to Hire" column.

WANTED, FLUTE AND PICCOLO PLAYER FOR LONDON THEATRE TWICE DAILY. TERMS £6 10s. WEEKLY, STARTING JAN. 24. MUST BE A FIRST-CLASS PERFORMER AND MEMBER OF THE A.M.U. COPIES ONLY OF REFERENCES, WITH PROOFS OF MEMBERSHIP, ALSO STATING AGE, TO CONDUCTOR, C/O SECRETARY, 1, AVENUE-CHAMBERS, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, LONDON, W.C. SILENCE A POLITE NEGATIVE.

WANTED, good Orchestral Organist; one used to standard works; must be fully experienced or useless; for Pictures; evenings only. All particulars to M. D., Public Hall, Slough.

WANTED, Orchestral Organist, (pipe, 2 manual and pedal); pictures, evenings only; open Monday, Jan. 17. M. D., Pavilion, Falkirk, N.B.

WANTED immediately, Reed Organiste-Pianiste for Queen's Hall, High-st., Tottenham, evenings.

WANTED, Pianiste-Organiste (reed), solo, lady who has had experience playing to pictures; able to extemporise and memorise; own library; evenings and Saturday matinée only; no Sundays. State wages, experience, references, &c., to open Jan. 24. Permanent, comfortable berth. PICTURE PALACE, Orpington, Kent.

WANTED, Pianiste-Organiste (Reed), and Violiniste (joint), with experience playing to pictures. Able to extemporise and memorise. Own library. Evening and Saturday matinée. No Sundays. To open Jan. 24. State wages, experience, references, &c. Comfortable and permanent situation to the right musicians. PICTURE PALACE, Orpington, Kent.

WANTED, Pianiste and 'Cello, experienced, ladies, for café, N.E. district. Apply, Thurs., 10-12, 89, St. Stephen's-avenue, Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Pianist, once a fortnight, for practice dance, Warren-street, 7.30-10.30 p.m.; good rag-time. State terms; must be moderate. Box 310, "The Era."

WANTED, thoroughly exper. Solo Pianiste, good sight reader, for cinema; 2 hours each evening, 3 matinées. Apply, with refs., ELECTRIC EMPIRE, Hounslow.

WANTED, Experienced Picture Pianiste for small country cinema. Refs. and salary to Box 279, "The Era."

WANTED, Orchestral Pianist; matinées and evenings; no Sundays. No reply given unless terms are stated. MANAGER, Headgate Electric Theatre, Colchester.

WANTED, Orchestral Pianist and Double Bass, to deputise every Friday evening at the Blue Halls, Hammersmith. Apply, M. D.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

HIPPODROME, WISBECH, CAMB.
WANTED, smart Pianist, open Monday next, Jan. 17; used to Pictures and Varieties; must be well up in the business; evenings and one matinée, Saturday. Apply, with terms and references, to H. BANCROFT, as above.

WANTED, Orchestral Pianist, able to double preferred; must be thoroughly efficient; permanent for good man; Varieties, Drama, Comedies, &c.; open Monday next. Full pars. and if A.M.U., to MANAGER, Hippodrome, Rugby.

WANTED, 1st-class Orchestral Pianist for London cinema; audition, Thursday or Friday morning, 10.30. CHARLES MORTIMER, Holloway Empire, N.

WANTED, Straight Double Drummer, for London Rink. DINES, 208, Vallance-road, Bethnal Green-road.

WANTED, first-class Tympanist Drummer, must know all effects, for pictures; good salary; can start at once. Write, Box 296, "The Era."

WANTED, first-class Drummer, with own tympanies and effects; also Organist. Apply, MANAGER, Beau Nash Picture Theatre, Bath.

WANTED, at once, Drummer, with tymps and effects; A.M.U.; Variety. Terms £3 10s.; matinées half salary; permanency. Age and refs. to CONDUCTOR, Palace, Scunthorpe, Lincs.

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WANTED, Trio, to deputise one night weekly. Violin, piano, organ or 'cello; North London. Box 304, "The Era."

WANTED, Musicians, for jazz band, to open Monday next. Wire particulars to SIDNEY BURNS, 148, Briggate, Leeds.

WANTED, Musicians (ex-Service men, under 45), to complete London Territorial Corps Band. Apply, KESSELS & CO., 41, Rathbone-place, W. 1.

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WANTED, Orchestra for Midland Theatre, used to varieties, revues, etc. All instruments; twice nightly. "Union" and N.O.A. members save your stamps. Particulars and terms, Box 300, "The Era."

WANTED, a sound, reliable Small Orchestra (of 6 or 7) for small Theatre in Seaside Town; must be thoroughly used to Variety, Revue, and Dramatic Business: Pianist-Conductor preferred; open all the year.

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To Managers of Gardens, Piers, and High-class Hotels.
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WANTED, by thoroughly experienced Musical Director; high-class music hall, theatre; London or provinces; willing to play instrument (not piano) when Conductor travelled, with Mus. Comedy, &c. Box 288, "The Era."

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All particulars,
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WANTED, Engagement by First-class Musical Director (piano, baton); good cinema, hotel or revue. Wire or write terms, etc., M. D., Central Cinema, Eastbourne.

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WANTED Known, Violinst Rep.; cinema; finished 3 years' engagement. H. M., 12, Quadrant-road, Canonbury, N.

WANTED, engagement, Rep. First Violin; any business. 196, Canterbury-road, Croydon.

WANTED, by Repetiteur, deputising at present. Permanent Engagement, London only; thoroughly experienced; free after next week. VIOLINIST, 30, Kensington Gardens-square, W. 2.

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WANTED, London Engt., by Two Young Ladies (Violiniste-Leader and Pianiste, both soloist), with splendid library; café or restaurant preferred; good offer only.
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WANTED, Engagement by really first-class Violinist and Pianiste; both thoroughly experienced; not London. Will agents please communicate? JOHNSON, 171, St. George's-road, Glasgow.

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WANTED, Engagement by Lady Double Bass; thoroughly experienced, any business; London or suburbs.

Box 302, "The Era."

WANTED Known, Double Bass Player, thoroughly experienced, open for engagements from Jan. 12 to Feb. 18; any business; London and suburbs. BASSO, 11, Hadley-street, Kentish Town, London, N.W. 5.

WANTED, Engt. as Double Bass, exp. in opera, symphony, high-class cinema, &c.; best refs.; good offers only. Apply, S. SHORT, Hillside-rd., St. George's Bristol.

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WANTED Known, first-class Oboe Player, open for engagement from Jan. 12 to Feb. 18; any business; in London or suburbs. Apply by letter to F. C. WEBB, 42, Victoria-road, Holloway, London, N. 7.

WANTED, Re-Engagement, Oboeist, experienced all lines; best references. Box 283, "The Era."

WANTED, by Flautist, Engagement; any business. Please state terms in first letter. Address, FLAUTIST, 76, Waterloo-road, Wolverhampton.

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WANTED, Engagement, Flautist; Sundays; Cinemas; matinées; hotels, restaurants, &c.; reliable. FLAUTIST, 99, Byrne-road, Balham.

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WANTED Known, Flautist (and Pic.), at liberty for Engagement; experienced all round. FLAUTIST, 56, Elmhurst Mansions, Edgeley-road, Clapham, S.W.

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UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM.

ACTORS ORPHANAGE'S EFFORT AT SOLUTION.

A practical and meritorious effort towards the solution of the unemployment problem is that being made by the Trustees of The Actors' Orphanage Fund. By investing the sum of several thousands of pounds in the erection of a block of Flats, at Langley, Bucks., work for close upon a hundred of the country's unemployed is being found.

"Second only to the unemployment problem as a menace to our national welfare and happiness is the housing shortage," said Mr. Anslow J. Austin, Hon. Secretary of the Orphanage, in an interview. "By doing in the one stroke what we can to reduce both these evils we feel that we not only are making a profitable investment, and thereby fulfilling our duty to the Actors' Orphanage, but at the same time rendering a very real service to the community in a period of crisis. I shall be glad to hear that our example is being followed by bodies similar to our own throughout the country.

"A stipulation with the contractors insisted upon by Mr. Gerald du Maurier, our President, was that the workmen for the job were to be recruited from the ranks of the unemployed ex-service men, a provision which might well appear in all contracts entered into by public and semi public bodies and institutions, in these difficult days.

"Though the block is to consist of only twelve flats, we have already received some hundreds of applications for their tenancy, despite the fact that the foundations are only just being laid, and the first six will not be ready for occupation before June.

"Built on pure Georgian lines, the flats are to be in every way worthy of the beautiful country in which they are being erected, and though each is to be given a characteristic note of its own, the twelve will make a very harmonious whole.

"Only three minutes from the railway station, our site faces the Langley War Memorial Park, one of the loveliest spots in one of England's most picturesque counties."

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

DEATH.

GARDNER, CRAWFORD. — Late The Swansons. At Nursing Home in Liverpool, Dec. 31, 1920. Sadly missed by his brother, Sandy Rowan.

IN MEMORIAM.

CAMERON, CLAUDE. — In affectionate memory of my dear friend and partner, who passed away Jan. 18, 1920.—Bertie Ralland.

RUSSELL.—In memory of Ellen Russell, widow of the late Lawrence Russell, who entered into rest Jan. 12, 1915. Ever present and ever mourned by her daughter, Violet Russell.

THE ALDWYCH'S "MYSTERY."

The "mystery" violinist, whose playing caused some excitement in Oxford street during holiday week, made his appearance last evening at the Aldwych Theatre, between Acts II. and III. of "The Private Secretary," and continues to add there, not only to the weight of the boxes that the much be-ribboned unemployed ex-Service men hold in the foyer at the close of each matinée performance, but to the enjoyment of those of the large audiences who love really fine music.

The violinist, using a "Grandfather Hill" instrument of rich tone, has played, amongst other pieces, the very difficult "Rondo Capizzioso" of Saint-Saëns and Kreisler's "Caprice Viennoise"; but that which has been so much enjoyed that he has been specially asked to play it daily is an arrangement of an old Londonderry air, introducing one of the most plaintive and beautiful melodies ever composed. The accompaniments have been most sympathetically played by Mr. K. Ernest Irving, the Aldwych musical director.

The "Mystery" Revealed.

As it goes to press "The Era" is informed that the violinist's identity has been revealed. He has been recognised as Mr. Paul Belinfante, a young musician of 22, well known in the West End and in the provinces, especially in Manchester and Liverpool, where he has given his own recitals. He has also played on the Continent, principally in Rotterdam, Amsterdam, and Brussels, and has toured the principal English music halls in the Golda Quartette.

O.P. CLUB CHILDREN'S PARTY.

Selfridge's, on Saturday afternoon, although deserted by the bargain-hunter, rang with merriment during the time the O.P. Club held their annual Children's Party and Dance. It was a jolly, informal affair, which started with a tea which can best be described as "scrumptious," and proved throughout to be just the thing for the kiddies. The dancing was thoroughly appreciated, and tiny tots for-trotted and one-stepped with all the *aplomb* of the inveterate night-clubber.

Of course there was a Father Christmas, a very cheery old fellow Mr. Percy Fender made him, who really did come down a chimney. Nor must we forget the Punch and Judy show, worked by Mr. Alfred Barbour, and a fine musical clown in the shape of Will A. Musus. A number of adults, including H. E. Blain (Vice-President), Mr. Murray Griffith, Mr. Samuel Greenless, Mrs. Henry A. Lytton (wife of the celebrated Savoyard), and Mr. J. Evans (Hon. Secretary), helped to keep things going at a fine pace, and it must be added that the music was splendidly supplied by Mr. Fred Wildon and the Wildon Ladies' Quartette. Lucky the child who has a member of the O.P. Club for a relative.

FIREMEN AT THEATRES.

The General Purposes Committee of the Somerset County Council, at the quarterly meeting at Taunton on Monday, reported as follows:—"The County Councils' Association state that the Home Office have suggested to them that County Councils might consider whether or not they should in future attach to licences for theatres and music halls, conditions requiring the employment of trained firemen, and the Association ask for the opinion of the County Council on the matter. We recommend the County Council to inform the Association that however proper such conditions may be for large towns, they are wholly unsuitable for an agricultural County like Somerset, and if imposed will put an entire stop to most of the performances at theatres and music halls, and that they cannot, therefore, recommend the Justices, to whom the powers of the County Council have been delegated in the matter, to impose any such conditions."

The recommendation was agreed to.

LONDON SUBURBAN THEATRES

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE THEATRE.

In the interregnum between the pantomime season Mr. Charles Barnard is this week presenting Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's "Home of the Fairies," which met with a very cordial reception from a large audience. Mr. Frank Liston is associated with the authoress in the presentation of the play, and a capital company of artists includes some clever children. Mollie Lambert sings and dances with charm as the Little Princess who seeks happiness in the happy land. Mr. Robert Faulkner, as the father, is at his best, and Miss Cissie St. Elmo well sustains the sympathetic part of the mother. To Mr. Bert Randall, as Funiuns, especial praise for his bright acting, and also Miss Edie Macklin (an old favourite here) for her laughter-raising as Peglums. These two clever artists caused infinite pleasure throughout the play. A great favourite also with the Elephant patrons was Daisie Poncheroy as Doglums. Miss Mona Gray and Mr. Arthur Pringle ably represent the wicked people in the play, and Miss Nancy Roberts is a bewitching Queen of the Fairies. The wonderfully clever mites who make such sweet fairies have been well drilled by Mme. Walker, and all sing and dance delightfully. The specialities are a feature. A word of praise is due to the scenic artists for the effective stage pictures.

WINDSOR NEW THEATRE ROYAL.

The Geo. Brydon Phillips' Company, with "Puss in Boots," were accorded a hearty reception here on Monday night. The pantomime abounds in good, straightforward humour, tuneful melodies, pretty dances, with picturesque scenery and attractive dresses. Miss Millie Jillson plays the part of Jack in a dashing and entertaining manner; her songs are rendered in capital style, her chief number being "Life's a Bubble." Miss Olive Sparke, as Prince Ferdinand, scores a success; Princess Pansy is prettily played by Miss Grace Glover, who distinguishes herself in some neatly executed dances; Miss Vera De Bye is a charming second girl as Amarando, her song "Oo-La-La Wee Wee" being extremely popular; Miss Norah McCarthy is the possessor of a capital voice, which is heard to effect in all her vocal efforts as Fairy Hymen; whilst Mephisto, the Demon of the play, is represented in a clever manner by Miss Hilda M. Barry; Mr. Sid Kearns, as Dame Dorking, is responsible for loud and prolonged laughter in a clever piece of work; Badlot and Sadlot are neatly presented by the Gladwell Bros., whose jokes cause much amusement; Mr. Robert W. F. Douglas, under whose direction the pantomime is produced, plays the part of King Koko with zest, and is most effective. Mr. Eddie Scott makes a good Cat, and Grim Gobble, the Giant, could not be in better hands than that of Mr. Geo. Lake-Grange. Specialities are introduced by The Sir Drummer Girls and The Gladwell Bros. The orchestra and chorus do good work under the direction of Mr. Kingsford Shortland.

AN A.C.U. PANTOMIME.

The Tivoli Theatre, Hull, was crowded on Saturday, when the pantomime, "Sinbad," was presented by 70 children of St. Michael's Guild, in aid of the Actors' Church Union War Memorial Hostels for the children of touring professionals. The show made a big hit, and the principals were excellent. John Tiller and Fred Karno kindly supplied the dresses, and the Rev. R. Newcombe, M.C., was responsible for the script. A big feature was the Great Storm Dance arranged by the producer, Mr. Frank Bridge, from Sibelius' "Valse Triste," and the St. Michael's Orchestra, under the direction of Major Turner, evoked much applause.

Mr. Arthur Prince read verses from the poem by Louis Parker, which deals with the question of the children. The profession came along in full strength, and artists from the Hull Palace sold autographs and programmes, and Mrs. Blerlot and her ladies and gents. from "Buzz Along" did the needful with the grease paint. The Rev. Evelyn Kingsbury, hon. organising secretary of the Actors' Church Union, journeyed from London to witness the performance. Capt. Harry Slingsby proved a real benefactor in lending the theatre and staff.

Edinburgh Holiday Entertainments.

The theatres here are attracting crowds of holiday-makers. "A Night Out," at the Lyceum; "Cinderella," a charming production, at the Royal; and "Dick Whittington" at the King's are attended nightly by large audiences; while Miss Ada Denton's company at the Garrick provides a capital entertainment with a musical revue entitled "This Is It."

THE REALM OF MUSIC.

THE MUSICAL DIRECTOR.

ORCHESTRAL NOTES AND NEWS.

IN THE CONDUCTOR'S CHAIR.

MR. VINCENT THOMAS.

At the age of twelve years Mr. Vincent Thomas was already a conductor—of a ladies' choir in his native place in North Wales. Before that, when he was eight, he had published his maiden composition. This was a song. He is inclined to

(Photo., Frank Agnew, Glasgow.

MR. VINCENT THOMAS.

think, now, that it must have been a pretty poor song; but, anyhow, it came out in the pages of a London musical journal.

Mr. Thomas' career is another example of genius insisting on taking its own way in spite of all temptations to take somebody else's, and in spite of all obstacles and difficulties. When the time came for him to choose a profession, he wanted to take up music; but his family were in opposition. In the result, he gave his days to banking, and his nights—a good part of them, at any rate—to music. Transferred to London, he studied with Dr. Ennis, who is now principal of Adelaide Conservatoire, and with Dr. Warwick Jordan. He founded the London and Westminster Bank Orchestral Society—thus combining banking with music—and was its conductor for twenty consecutive years. The war put an end, for the time, to the society's activities. At the same time, Mr. Thomas was conductor of the Wesley Choral Union, an appointment that lasted eleven years.

During this period his spare hours were given to composition. He wrote a triad of grand operas. The subjects were founded on the Arthurian legends, and the poems were written by Ernest Rhys, Wales' foremost poet. These operas were produced at the Court and Coronet Theatres. Another work, a Masque of the Holy Grail, produced by the Celtic Association at the Court, and afterwards played at the Haymarket, has had thirty performances by different societies.

In 1915 and 1916 Mr. Thomas was conductor with Sir Thomas Beecham's grand opera company, and in 1917 he was appointed, by Messrs. Boosey and Co., conductor of the Westminster Choral Society. In these two years of office he has managed to do good service for native music. He has rehearsed and performed over a dozen new British works.

At the moment he is engaged on a new comedy opera. This, by the way, is by no means his first essay in the domain of light music. He hopes to "produce" in the spring.

Orchestral Concerts for Glasgow.

Glasgow Corporation Finance Committee has considered the question as to arrangements with the Choral and Orchestral Union of Glasgow to give three or four popular concerts in certain of the public halls during the present winter similar to those given by the Union in 1912-14. The Union has notified its willingness to arrange for the Scottish orchestra of seventy performers giving a series of four concerts under the auspices of the Corporation. The committee has accordingly decided to have the four concerts, two in the City Hall, one in the St. Andrew's Hall, and one in Springburn Public Hall.

THE LATEST MUSIC.

DRUMMOND AND CO.

Florence Hedgcock's "The Old Home of Childhood's Days" is a singable song. Essentially homely in sentiment, as befits the subject, it expresses both in words and music the feelings of many a wanderer in "wondrous countries far away," whose chief desire has been to exchange "forests and palm-groves" for the humble little cottage left behind. The refrain is attractively tuneful.

Drummond and Co. also publish four Welsh airs—"When I Was a Shepherd," "David of the White Rock," "The Rising of the Lark," and "Suo Gan" (Lullaby). These are arranged by Mary Carmichael, for the violin, with pianoforte accompaniment. They are particularly suitable for teaching purposes.

Pianists who are searching for effective concert-opening pieces should look at "The Destruction of Solanique," a "descriptive overture," by George Edwin Palmer. The MS. was written in the trenches, and on different sectors of the Balkan Front, with ink made from berries gathered from the hills of Macedonia, after the composer had watched, fascinated, the fires devouring the city; so that the overture is imbued with local colour in more senses than one. The opening, descriptive of the calm waters of the harbour, is quiet, but soon the music quickens to excitement. The roaring of the flames and the crashing of the buildings are expressed in rapid chromatic passages. There is a powerful climax.

"Toujours Joyeux" is a good description of the valse, by Bertha Gilbert, of that title. Although there is plenty of well-contrasted material, the predominating sentiment is gaiety. The valse may be calculated upon to stimulate dancers.

FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER'S
FOUR NEW ORCHESTRAL NOVELTIES.

WOND'RING FOX-TROT.

BUDDHA FOX-TROT.

PICKANINNY DREAMS. WALTZ.

SIREN S VALSE.

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If not, write to the Orchestral Dept. for particulars.

FRANCIS DAY & HUNTER
FOREMOST DANCE HOUSE

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK.

N.S.L. CONCERT.

WATFORD PALACE THEATRE.

Philip Ritte's well-known concert party, assisted by other talented artists, were responsible for an excellent and well-varied entertainment at the concert on Sunday. The party opened the programme to a packed house with a concerted item, "Come to the Fair," which was well received, but their most popular numbers were "The Hole in the Ground" and "Posers," rendered in most amusing style. Miss Doris Cowan was deservedly recalled for her delightful singing of Herbert Oliver's "The Great Bazaar," which contains a number of high notes. For an encore she gave "Sing, Joyous Bird," a favourite song for sopranos. Mr. Hector Gordon's clever whistling solos were greatly enjoyed, but it was in his "Canny Impressions," in which he related a number of humorous Scotch stories, that he was given the best opportunity of showing his talent. Miss Jennifer Gwyn is an extremely clever comedy artist, and she was accorded a great reception for her singing of "Nobody Knows." As an encore Miss Gwyn associated herself with Mr. Will Edwards in a capital duet, with heaps of amusing cross-talk. Mr. Philip Ritte's well-modulated tenor voice was heard to fine effect in Marshall's "I Dreamt That I Heard You Singing," for which he was recalled, and Sanderson's "The Stars Have Eyes." Mr. Will Edwards was exceedingly funny in "Another Fly Song," in which he told his audience where the ys go in the winter-time to the tunes of a number of popular songs ancient and modern, and he was called upon to appear again. Mr. Frank Watts sang Cowen's "Onaway, Awake, Beloved," and "The Flora Dance," and as an encore gave "The Stoker." Miss Gladys Millage gave songs at the piano in a particularly attractive manner, and was brought back twice. Undoubtedly the most enjoyable contributions of the evening were selections played by an instrumental trio consisting of Mr. Lloyd Shakespeare (cornet), Mr. Ernest Rutterford (concertina), and Miss Gladys Millage (piano). Each item was received with great enthusiasm, and they had to respond to a double encore. Master Jack Salisbury, who is 16 years of age, played several violin solos, which were deserving of the highest commendation for so young an artist. Miss Tina Foster was the accompanist for the concert party. Mr. James D. Budd, of the Council of the National Sunday League, is in charge of the arrangements for the concerts.

KINGSWAY HALL.

The ubiquitous ballad does not have all its own way at the Kingsway Hall Saturday night concerts. The audiences there demand the stronger fare that such singers as Mr. Joseph Farrington are able and willing to give. On Saturday last, for instance, Mr. Farrington began with a Handel aria, "O ruddier than the cherry." He followed it with Cowen's "Onaway, awake!" This was "double encored," and only for his third did he go to the ballads. It was a good one, "In Summertime on Bredon." Miss Ethel Dyer, a powerful soprano; Miss Mary Williams, a contralto whose quiet, sympathetic manner fits her well for the singing of such homely ditties as "An Old-fashioned Town"—which pleased greatly—and Mr. Barrington Hooper, a tenor with an excellent style and a fine, ringing quality of voice, made up the quartette of vocalists. Besides all the good things these accomplished artists provided, there was pianoforte-playing—as much enjoyed as anything on the programme—by a distinguished pianist, Miss Chilton Griffin; and the salt of humour, in liberal quantities, was supplied by Mr. Harrison Hill and Mr. George Ellis, who, however much they differ in style, manage to be equally entertaining as "entertainers." Mr. Hill, brisk and cheery, gave "just one or two little stories," and clever as well as amusing piano impressions. Mr. Ellis was excellent in a "Heaps of Dickens" sketch, which he ends up with a hilarious impersonation of Joe Elvin, so life-like as to be almost indistinguishable from the original.

CENTRAL HALL.

Selections by the Royal Albert Hall Orchestra were an additional and a much-appreciated feature of the Enoch concert programme on Saturday afternoon at Central Hall. With Mr. Dan Godfrey conducting, performances of a kind to lift the concert far above the ordinary "ballad" level were given of such pleasant, stimulating things as Bizet's "Suite l'Arlésienne"—arranged by Landon Ronald—and P. Lacome's "Suite Espagnole," "La Feria." The orchestra also employed itself as accompanist in several instances: to Mr. Walter Hyde's singing of two of Landon Ronald's "Four Silhouettes"—this time under the composer's direction—and to Mr. G. Parker's singing of "A Carol of Bells," Sir C. V. Stanford's stirring setting of a patriotic war-poem by L. N. Parker. The latter could not have been more finely sung than it was by Mr. Parker, but, truth to tell, the performance as a whole would have been all the better for a little rehearsal on the part of the orchestra. As for Mr. Hyde, one doubts whether he has ever been in fitter form than now. His voice is so free, so full and well sustained, so brilliant in the high tones. His second group was chosen from Landon Ronald's "Six Love Songs," and most admirably did he sing them.

Ivor Novello's "A Page's Road Song"—a delightful thing in the composer's happiest vein—and Easthope Martin's "Little Fleur de Lys," were sung, with very much charm, by a young contralto, Miss Gladys Harris. Unfamiliar numbers by Arnold Bax, "A Lullaby" and "Far in a Western Brookland," fell to the lot of Miss Anne Thursfield, who for her second contribution went right back to "A. L.'s" "Yea and Nay," "Forsake Me Not," and "Come, Sweet Morning." Mr. John Buckley was equally at home in E. Martin's "Cargoes," which he delivered with all the rythmic emphasis that virile lay demands; and the same writer's "Beauty," a song of a very different sort; Miss Gladys Marloe, a soprano with a clear, sweet voice, sang Liza Lehmann's "Cuckoo Counts" very prettily; Miss Violet Marquesita gave some of her vivid folk-song interpretations; and Miss Marie Aussenac played two Chopin pieces well, and a valse by Glazounov brilliantly. As usual, Mr. Harold Craxton was an exemplary accompanist.

SUNDAY SMOKER.

There was more than a classic flavour about last Sunday's "smoker" at the Æolian Hall. It was initiated by Bach's Toccata in F, admirably played on the organ by Mr. Frank Armstrong, who had to concede an encore. Purcell then figured on the programme, his "Nymphs and Shepherds" being sweetly sung by Miss Dorothy Grey, whilst the ensuing item was Handel's Violin Sonata in A Major, in which Miss Elsa Samford displayed considerable virtuosity. Mr. George Buck added greatly to his laurels as an entertainer, a particularly amusing part of his work being a Welsh version of that popular ditty, "For Me and My Girl"; whilst the robust and artistic baritone, Mr. Frederick Henry, was responsible for a very interesting feature in the shape of several musical settings of Kipling's poems. It remains to be added that Miss Winifred Fairlie fulfilled the duties of accompanist to with all her wonted skill.

CROYDON EXCELSIOR.

The Croydon Excelsior Musical Society provided their members with an exceptionally good concert on Friday last at the Greyhound Hotel, Croydon, on the initiative of their energetic secretary, Mr. J. Cameron Burn, who, with Mr. Wilfred Virgo, the well-known tenor, produced a costume recital of scenes from "Faust."

Mr. Wilfred Virgo, as Faust, and Mr. Harrison Latimer, as Mephistopheles, rendered their respective songs with correct enunciation, and both proved to be masters of their parts. Margarita was entrusted to Miss Anita de Recobar, whose acting and singing were all that could be expected from such an experienced and accomplished artist, her rendering of the Jewel Song being especially appreciated.

The orchestra was under the capable control of Mr. Hubert Sayers, and the staging was in the clever hands of Mr. Claude Chattey, who made very good use of the limited space at his disposal.

The whole production reflects great credit on the promoters, and well deserved the applause which was given at the fall of the curtain.

Between the scenes humorous interludes were given by Miss Elsie Mayfair and Mr. Felgate King, who proved themselves well worthy of the reception they were given.

ARMY BANDS.

Circularising local authorities in reference to the fees of Army bands, the Town Clerk of Southend encloses a copy of the proceedings of a conference of representatives of councils of various seaside and pleasure resorts with regard to the charges fixed by the Army Council, and asks the councils to refrain from entering into any further contracts with Army bands pending the result of an interview between the Army Council and a deputation from the conference.

A SUCCESSFUL YOUNG COMPOSER.

MR. A. EMMETT ADAMS.

It is eight years ago since that eminent young composer, A Emmett Adams, arrived in this country from Australia, when he made a brief stay of two weeks, during which time he visited the theatres in town. Not being greatly impressed with the chances for a newcomer, he sailed for America, and chanced to meet Miss Ada Reeve, whom he had seen in Australia when quite a youngster. Miss Reeve invited him to the first night at the Majestic Theatre, Chicago, on the Orpheum Circuit, and later during supper at the Blackstone Hotel asked if he knew of anyone who could write her a couple of numbers with an English touch. Although Emmett had only just decided to devote his energies seriously to composing, he suggested that he might be able to satisfy her requirements, with the result that Miss Reeve produced them a week later in New York with big success. At the time Emmett received a telegram announcing the success of his efforts he was helping in the analysis of eucalyptus oils for a company in which he had an interest. Naturally, he was elated with the news. As Miss Reeve was about to depart for Winnipeg she advised him to follow up his success as a composer,

(Photo., Marble Arch Studios.

MR. EMMETT ADAMS.

and soon after Emmett was on his way to London to meet his mother and sister, who were coming over from Australia. Within three weeks he had arranged for his sister—Bertie Adams—to make her début on the music halls at the London Pavilion, and since then she has appeared at most of the West End theatres in many important productions, including the "Bing Boys" at the Alhambra, in which she understudied and played Violet Loraine's part for many weeks, when that artist was indisposed.

The first number, and which brought Emmett to the fore, was entitled "Roll Up" (Francis and Day). This was followed by a musical act, "The Scarlet Rhapsody," which ran for fourteen months with his sister in the leading rôle. Then came the famous ballad, "God Send You Back To Me," which proved an immediate success, largely to the co-operation of many Australian artists on this side, such as Ada Crossley, Lucille Benstead, Hope Charteris, Margaret Gruda, and others. Curiously enough, this number was turned down by many music publishers, who confessed that they had no faith in a song which eventually proved a world-wide success. When Emmett was paying a visit to his home country a few months ago he discovered that copies of the song were being sold in such distant parts as Moosejaw, Calgary, Vancouver, B.C., Honolulu, and Colombo. Emmett was next associated with Mr. Charles Cochran in his production, "£150," and later with "Pretty Peggy." Emmett admits that he has been, with the assistance of the publishers, very fortunate in securing the right artist to create his numbers. He has often gone out of his way to recommend songs to artists—not necessarily his own—as he has seen many artists suffer for want of suitable material. One of his recent numbers published by Ascherberg's, entitled "The Mill by the Sea," has proved a phenomenal success, and although only published in November the demand has, we hear, broken the records of any number issued by this company. It is no uncommon thing to find of a number published in England that the quickest results may spring from an unexpected quarter. Such is the case with "Every Time I See You," which Messrs. Chappell, of Australia, say is one of the most popular numbers in Australia, although it was only issued in this country by Feldman's less than a year ago. Another successful ballad, "A Song of Long Ago" (Keith Prowse), which is now in big demand by the public was only sung for the first time on Boxing night. It was written as a production number to fit a situation for Miss Ouida Macdermott in the pantomime at the Kennington Theatre. At the dress rehearsal Emmett saw the possibilities of this number, and approached Miss Doris Ashton—who had previously scored a big success with that delightful song, "Bells and Blue Ribbons"—who immediately wired from South Shields that she would be pleased to create the ballad on the halls, and at the Holborn Empire last week the popular vocalist made a great success with this song. Emmett would like to record his appreciation and thanks to the numerous musical directors and orchestras who are given any credit for the success gained by artists and composers for their co-operation in helping him to achieve his ambitions.

"ALICE" AND A PIANO.

Miss Phyllis Griffiths, the fourteen-year-old actress, now playing the title-rôle in "Alice in Wonderland" at the Victoria Palace matinées, is reasonably proud of her piano-playing record. So far she has to her credit six Royal Academy certificates, six special prizes, and two silver medals. While rehearsing for Alice she gained two medals in an open competition of three thousand children at the North London Polytechnic.

SOCIETY OF MUSICIANS' CONFERENCE

SIR H. P. ALLEN ON MUSIC TEACHING.

Sir Hugh P. Allen, Principal of the Royal College of Music, gave an address before the Incorporated Society of Musicians at the Mansion House on Wednesday. Colonel Sheriff Wishart opened the meeting, and the chair was afterwards taken by Mr. J. C. Ames.

Speaking of the changes that had come about in musical education, Sir Hugh Allen said that the methods of forty years ago had a sterilising influence on the teacher. Susceptibility to music must have been pretty strongly rooted to have been able to survive them. A point had now been reached when the great value of music in education was recognised by the State as well as by musicians. People constantly mistook ability to perform for musical ability. The most unmusical person could be taught to play an instrument, but an unmusical person would never be able to learn music.

"Beastly Tunes."

Music could only be taught through the ears. Infinite time and patience were expended in teaching children music, and then they were allowed to go about and listen to beastly tunes, which vitiated their taste, destroyed their judgment, and wiped out their sense of musical decency. There was nothing so subtle as bad music; it was far more catching than measles, and a more insidious disease. Companionship with bad music was as bad as companionship with those who swore or bore false witness. It was of no use to create in children an appetite for healthy musical food, and then to confront them with a permanent scarcity, or, worse still, with bad food, artfully disguised, in unlimited quantities. That was the problem before the conference—how, after having musically educated young people, to provide them with constant opportunities of hearing good music, and to prevent them from hearing bad music. Parents must be induced to provide sound instruments for practice. He wished it were possible to have a continuation school for parents, and to enforce compulsory attendance until they could pick out one good tune from a lot of bad ones, and give their reasons for preferring jazz and fox-trots to folk-music.

The cultivation of music had sometimes been regarded as a moral danger; St. Augustine, because he enjoyed it so much, thought there must be evil in it, and Mahomet believed the art was an invention of the devil for the wrecking of mankind. Some people still coupled music with stupidity and effeminacy, but, on the contrary, music was a quickener of the intelligence, and its study was one of the most valuable forms of mental training.

A Teacher's Requirements.

Everything depended on the teacher. The requirements of a music teacher included the mind of a seer, the hand of a magician, the persuasiveness of an Orpheus, the eye of a hawk, the ear of a terrier, the patience of Job, the optimism of Micawber, the physique of Hercules, the quickness and delicacy of a dragon-fly, the courage of a lion, and the diplomacy of an archangel.

In the past it had been possible for anyone to turn music teacher; the profession had been regarded as a polite way of earning a living. But the new Teachers' Registration Council would lend a new prestige to the teacher.

Replying to a vote of thanks, Sir Hugh said that he would willingly go down to Whitechapel with a barrel-organ, where he was sure the children would dance as readily to good tunes as to the bad ones supplied to them now. Every means must be taken to develop musical appreciation—the gramophone, the enlisting of the help of cinema orchestras, and that of choirmasters and organists in churches and chapels.

MISS ALICE LILLEY.

Friends and performers will be pleased to hear that Miss Alice Lilley has recovered from her golfing accident, which occurred on Sept. 8, and which necessitated a serious operation. She is now fit again and in better voice than ever. She resumes her professional engagements at the London Opera House on Jan. 17, with the new ballad which Horatio Nicholls has specially composed for her, entitled "The Memory of a Song." The Lawrence Wright Music Co. take a particular interest in Miss Lilley, because she was the original soprano with the Lawrence Wright ensemble.

Miss Edith Abraham, who, following her tour of the United States and Canada, made her London reappearance in recital on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 4, will give her second recital of violin music this (Wednesday) evening, in Wigmore Hall. As in the first recital, she will be associated with Mr. Arthur Alexander, the pianist. The programme will include César Franck's sonata, Bach's familiar chaconne, Brahms's sonata in D minor, a gavotte by Tor Aulin, an Irish dance by Stanford, and two Irish airs arranged by Mr. Alexander.

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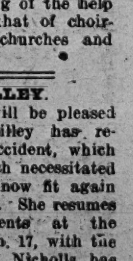

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CONCERT PARTIES, ARTISTS, AND ENTERTAINERS.

CONCERT PARTIES.

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SMART PIANIST—ENTERTAINER—ACCOMPANIST write in.

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To Managers, Producers, and Owners of Concert Parties.

WANTED, from Whitsuntide to end of September, Concert Party Artists, Two Producers and Managers. Producers will be required to rehearse and act as one of the party, also act as Manager of same. Advertiser is prepared to finance and provide stage, 500 to 2,000 deck chairs and pianos, to any established Concert Party. Newly formed concert parties will be required to rehearse in London. Please apply by letter only, marking envelope, C.P. Department, when interviews and auditions will be arranged. Also please note that successful applicants will have to provide first-class references, which will be taken up. Address, A. E. MILGROM, Concert Agency, 324, Regent-street, W.

County Borough of Southport.

CONCERT PARTY PITCH
In North Marine Park, SOUTHPORT.

The Park's Committee of the Southport Corporation invite tenders for the tenancy of this pitch, which adjoins the Promenade, for the Summer Season, 1921. Further particulars and form of tender may be obtained on application to the undersigned.

Tenders in sealed envelopes endorsed "Concert Party Pitch," must be in my hands not later than 12 o'clock noon on Saturday, the 15th instant.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender.

J. ERNEST JARRATT, Town Clerk,
5th January, 1921. Town Hall, Southport.

CONCERT PARTIES AT WORK.

Royal Arcadians.

Ernest Binns' Royal Arcadians completed a two weeks' season at the Victoria Pier, Blackpool, last Saturday night. They had a fine reception, and have flourished exceedingly during the holiday. The company included C. Lauri Hardy, entertainer; Rob Currie, comedian; Cora Doreen, soprano; Harry Milner, baritone; Ida Leslie, soubrette; Dolly Vernon, soubrette and dancer; Brian Gorman, pianist; Pansie, Masie and Max, and, of course, Ernest Binns, light comedian.

The Cigarettes.

Ernest Crampton's original brand of entertainers, The Cigarettes, are giving a vivacious and delightful show at Harry Leslie's Rusholme Pavilion, Manchester, this week, in a series of attractive single items and tastefully concerted numbers. The members of this clever party are Louise Macbean, Beatrice Edwards, Irene Raie, Gladys Anderson, Martyn Herbert, Dennis Noble, and Leslie Hollwood.

The Gipsies.

This company are at the Assembly Rooms, Salisbury, this week, and had a big reception from a crowded "house" on Monday. They include Miss Norah Beck, soprano; Miss Lou Charlesworth, comedienne; Miss Gracie Fitzroy, premiere danseuse; Miss Hilda Belsia, R.A.M., pianist; Mr. Charles Hennessy, comedian; Mr. Sidney Ronald, baritone; and Mr. Edward Boulter, humorist and entertainer. Their singing is good, and special mention should be made of Mr. Sidney Ronald, who has a fine voice and uses it well. The choruses, burlesques, &c., were well done and heartily received.

The Quaintesques.

The attraction at the Anglesey Palace, Burton-on-Trent, this week, is Mr. Billy Manders' highly successful and popular costume concert party, The Quaintesques. In addition to the above the programme includes Miss Emily Jones, contralto, and Miss Margaret Parker, soprano.

Eastbourne Entertainers.

At the Devonshire Park Pavilion, Eastbourne, the Pavilion Entertainers remain for a season of several weeks. Their work continues to be of the highest class.

The Ideals.

Mr. Donald Gilbert's concert party, the Ideals, have met with such a measure of success at the Under-the-Clock Pavilion, South Shields, during the past week that Captain Julian Bainbridge, the resident manager, has, on behalf of his partner (Mr. F. Marriott-Watson) and himself retained their services for another week, when they will give an entirely new selection from their repertoire. Donald Gilbert is a light comedian with an effective style, and James Craig, working upon somewhat broader lines, gets in a lot of telling work his lightning patter being particularly good. James Longdon possesses a powerful baritone voice, which he uses with skill and judgment in such fine songs as "The Windmill," "Melisande in the Wood," "Shipmates of Mine," &c. Doris Webster is a soprano of powerful volume and wide range, and her offerings of both classical and popular items gain for her much appreciation. Elsa La Barte is a comedienne and dancer with a pleasing style, and she contributes some smart songs and dances. Bobbie Edmundson and his assistant Jerry give a ventriloquial turn, and Dudley Browning, in addition to playing the accompaniments, renders musical monologues at the piano. A strong feature of the Ideals is the concerted items and duets from opera and musical comedy, together with some very good burlesque matter, which stamps them as one of the most efficient concert parties on the road.

Pan.

Messrs. Hinton and Jayer's company, Pan, are at the Leas Pavilion, Folkestone, this week; and have opened a four weeks' engagement. The artists are all good, and the programme is very distinctive. There are quite a number of new songs, composed by members of the company. These always make a great hit. The artists include Harry Joyce (comedian), Leslie Hinton (entertainer), Walter Bird (baritone), Leo Conniche (pianist), Mollie Vincent (soprano-soubrette), Janice Hylton (a speciality artist), and Beryl Beresford (comedienne-entertainer).

A Really Good "Concerted" Item.

All concert party proprietors who are on the look-out for a really novel and effective "concerted," and who pride themselves on the vocalisation of their artists, would do well to look carefully into a new "song-cycle romance" entitled "Gretna Green," which has just been published by Messrs. Francis, Day and Hunter at 2s. 6d.

The lyrics are by Fred W. Leigh, and the music by Henry E. Pether, both experienced and able craftsmen, and it is no exaggeration to say that the newly-published cycle is probably the best work which has ever come from their pens.

"Gretna Green" consists of four striking and tuneful songs, entitled respectively "Yonder Runs the Winding Road," "At the 'Load of Hay,'" "For Me No Bridal Train," and "The Smith of Gretna Green," all well contrasted, and capable of independent rendition, but their great value as a concert party item lies in their continuity when given as a whole in their due order, as the whole of the story, from the elopement to the wedding, is told in the four numbers.

STEINWAY HALL, SAT., Jan. 29, at 3.
ANNE CHARLESWORTH, SECOND DRAMATIC RECITAL, Assisted by JOHN ROBART, BARITONE.
Tickets, 7s. 6d., 5s. 9d., 2s. 4d., at Hall and Agents.

CONCERT PARTY & ENTERTAINMENT NOTES.

C.P. Proprietors' Organisation—Wanted, A Definite Programme—Evils Requiring Remedies.

What is happening with the "C.P.P.A."? We are told that over fifty proprietors belong to this society, and we expect that the majority of these ladies and gentlemen are asking themselves this question. We understand that a special general meeting was called in London a few weeks ago, but that with the exception of two or three of the Council no others turned up. Now this is far from satisfactory, and a condition of things which we cannot quite understand. In response to an appeal to proprietors to form an association for their mutual welfare and benefit over fifty join up. A large number of these reside in London, and are not at present touring. Nevertheless, when an urgent special meeting is called only a sufficient number of the Council attend to form a quorum. Well, we have had considerable experience of associations and benefit societies, and the conclusion we have formed is that it is far better for the committee or ruling body to formulate a programme and secure the endorsement of the general members when the opportunity occurs.

Look at that excellent institution the C.A.B.A.! The membership runs into hundreds, but during all the many years of its existence it has always been found difficult to get a really large general meeting, and, in fact, we don't suppose that at any meeting more than about 10 per cent. of the members have been in attendance. But the committee of the C.A.B.A. meet frequently and form their plans, so that when a general meeting comes along they have something tangible to put before those members who do attend.

A Definite Programme.

It seems to us that the Council of the C.P.P.A. should adopt this plan. Let them form such rules and regulations as may be to their minds necessary for the good of the members generally, and when a general meeting is called members should be informed in the notice convening the meeting of the rules, &c., which will be submitted for their ratification. If the members have any objections to make and cannot attend the meeting they will probably communicate in writing. After all, the Council is elected to do the necessary work and give a lead to the members. It is not for a Council or a Committee to ask members to attend a meeting and bring up their own rules and regulations for the conduct of their association. Such would imply a weakness on the part of the governing body and an incapacity to carry out those objects for which it was appointed.

Existing Evils.

There are evils besetting concert party proprietors, and more especially those proprietors who are not favoured with the "plum" dates, but who have to accept inequitable sharing terms in order to keep running. Something should be done to remedy those evils. Have members of the Council of the C.P.P.A. properly and sufficiently discussed this matter? If they are unable to form rules or to take steps such as are necessary, they can scarcely expect that the members outside the Council can do so. If the C.P.P.A. is to be of any utility to the fifty and more proprietors supporting it, the Council must get a move on, otherwise the members will be wanting to know what they have paid their subscriptions for. Let the Council form a programme and call a general meeting to confirm it. At the same time, let them arrange that any members who are unable to be present may record their votes by post. Something will then have been done, and no time should be wasted in the attempt.

A Conjurer's Convalescence.

Mr. John Warren, the popular conjurer and ventriloquist who got injured in a tram accident when returning home from the last Wimbledon Orpheus Musical Society's concert, is, we are pleased to say, now as well as ever. Mr. Warren, who for so many years was one of the leading lights of the C.A.B.A., can fairly claim to being one of the best-known of London entertainers. He seems gifted with surprising juvenility and is continually presenting new and startling conjuring tricks. As a ventriloquial humorist, too, he will take some beating, and the amount of laughter he always succeeds in evolving from his audience is truly astonishing. Although one of the old school, "Jack" Warren is still more up to date than the majority, and well deserves the high position he occupies in the ranks of entertainers.

Immediate Bookings.

In these days the touring concert party does not book up solidly very far ahead, and "vacant next week" is often noticeable. "The Era," as we have pointed out before, offers an exceptional advantage to proprietors requiring immediate bookings, for it is published earlier in the week than other professional journals, and a day saved is of the utmost value, especially when printing, &c., has to be ordered and sent on for the next week. That one day makes all the difference. Printing should be out not later than the preceding Friday of the week following, and "The Era" offers this opportunity, one which has proved its advantage on many occasions.

Relieving the Rates.

The direct benefit received by seaside towns from the activities of bands and concert parties is illustrated by figures from the Thanet towns, quoted by the "Thanet Advertiser." The rates at Ramsgate this year will be relieved by the profits from municipal entertainments to the extent of £2,573, representing over a 4d. rate. At Broadstairs the rates will be reduced by 4½d. by a profit of £1,562. At Margate last year the sum of £11,802 was set aside for the relief of the rates.

C.A.A. At Home.

The next At Home of the Concert Artists' Association will take place on Sunday, January 30, and not the 23rd, as stated in a contemporary. The chair will be taken by Mr. Hayden Coffin.

CONCERT ARTISTES' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

ALTERATION OF RULES CONFIRMED.

A special general meeting of the Concert Artists' Benevolent Association was held at St. George's Hall on Sunday evening, for the purpose of confirming the alteration of rules resolved upon at a general meeting a few weeks ago.

Mr. Alfred Thomas presided. As the minute book had been accidentally left behind, the report of the last general meeting which appeared in "The Era" was read by the hon. sec., Mr. Julius E. Day, and accepted as the minutes.

The Chairman explained the object of the meeting, and asked if anyone desired to speak for or against the confirmation of the rules as agreed to at the last meeting. There being no opposition it was resolved that the alterations of the rules agreed to at the previous meeting be confirmed.

A suggestion was made that in future the subscriptions should cover the period from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 of each year, and it was decided to refer the matter to the Committee.

The Entertainment.

Mr. Bransby Williams was the chairman, and when the usual interval in the programme arrived Mr. Sivori Levey, the hon. entertainment secretary, announced from the stage that Mr. Williams had come specially from Liverpool to be present, and had promised to do a turn before giving an address.

Mr. Bransby Williams then made his appearance, and had a very hearty reception. He opened with the very effective recitation entitled "The Difference," and afterwards delighted the audience with a new version of "The Stage Doorkeeper," his clever and amusing mimicry of well-known music hall performers causing peals of laughter.

In the brief address which followed Mr. Williams said he had been told that they had made a change in the title of their Association by the omission of the word Benevolent, with the object of extending their activities, but they could disabuse their minds of any fear that benevolence would in future be excluded from the scope of the Society's operations. He was also informed that they had decided to have ladies on the Committee, and he had no doubt that their presence would buck up the members of it. It was a pleasure to him to attend the entertainment that evening, and assist in encouraging young artists who were aspirants for the concert hall and the stage. He might mention that 28 years ago he was himself a lightning sketch artist. His advice to young artists who went in for comedy was that their humour should be clean humour, such as that of Miss Vesta Tilley and the late Dan Leno, so that nobody, from the bishop to the coster, need fear taking the wife and family to the music hall or the ordinary theatre. In conclusion, Mr. Williams appealed to those present to contribute generously to the collection.

The contributors to the programme included Gertrude Smith, soprano, and Elsie Dunham, contralto, in duets; Mildred Roper, in a medly song at the piano; Harry Edmonds, tenor; Lawrence Gray, baritone, who sang the Prologue to "Pagliacci"; and Daisy Hopwood, soprano, who gave "One Fine Day." Lawrence Inkster, tenor, sang "An English Rose" from "Merrie England"; Cliff Lester scored in songs at the piano; Woodman Pitman, cartoonist, displayed ingenuity in his "shorthand drawings"; Mme Woodman Pitman recited "Big Bellew"; Mme. Pauline Theurer introduced her new song-lullaby, "Mother Loves You Best," with harp accompaniment, and was encored; Mabel Hammer recited "For His Country's Sake"; and Mamie Thorpe "Dagobert the Jester." Other names on the long programme were Lilian Brion, violinist; Owen Clark, magician; Syd Crossley, comedian; Nellie Davison, entertainer; Brook Flowers, silver hand-bell soloist; Lillie Hunt, mezzo-soprano; Brena Quinion, soubrette; Morland Hay, entertainer; Cyril Lydington, Joseph Meyclar, Miss Gertrude Mayo, and Mr. Wm. W. Hoskins were the accompanists, and Mr. Alfred Bishop was, as usual, the hon. stage manager.

WHITEHALL MUSIC CO.

Another "old-home" song, that runs the most popular of them all very closely for front place, is George A. Stevens' "When That Harvest Moon is Shining." The melody makes a splendid one-step—there is no need to say any more than that about its syncopated attractiveness. Hedges Bros. and Jacobson are featuring the song. In "That Divine Melody" a very well-known ballad is extolled, even above rag-time melodies—"The Rosary." The writers and composers, William Ewart and Jack English, know exactly how to build a popular number. Their ingenious introduction into the refrain of "quotations" from the song (which they call "this wondrous masterpiece") is proof positive of the fact. No wonder the Versatile Three got hold of "That Divine Melody."

The sub-title of George A. Stevens' "Old South Car'lina" is "Yon Wonderful Home!" Probably, seeing that he had "got there" with "That Harvest Moon," Mr. Stevens lost no time in making a bid for a like success with another "old folks in the old shanty" ditty. Or, perhaps, the positions were reversed, and "Car'lina" came first. In either case, "Old South Car'lina," with Miss Daisy Dormer to back it, has made more than good. "Sunday," which is featured by G. H. Elliott, shows the same composer in a different, but equally happy light.

An exhilarating fox-trot, "Zulahan," and a joyous "Riot Rag," both by Roy Bernard, also come from the Whitehall Co.

CONCERT PARTIES TOURING.

Arcadians.—Jan. 10, Arc. Pav., Bradford; 17, Arc. Pav., Bradford.

Arcady.—Jan. 10, Redcar; 17, S. Shields.

Box o' Vestas.—Jan. 10, Morecambe; 17, Hull.

Catlin's Royal Pierrots.—Jan. 10, Leeds.

Coo-Ees, The.—Jan. 10, Axminster.

Fanatics, The.—New Pavilion, Burnham-on-Sea (Resident Season).

Gay Gondoliers.—Jan. 10, King's, Melton Mowbray.

Ideals.—Jan. 10, Under Clock Pav., South Shields.

Live Wires.—Jan. 10, Bijou T., Swanage.

Optimists, The.—Jan. 10, Sale.

Pan.—Jan. 10 and 17, Leas Pav., Folkestone.

Pavilion Entertainers, The.—Jan. 10, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.

Pedlers, The.—Jan. 10, Pav., Derby; 17, Anglesea Pal., Burton-on-Trent.

Piquants, The.—10, Bijou, Rye; 17, Super Cinema, Horley.

Poppies, The.—Jan. 10, Assembly Rooms, Salisbury.

Puppets.—Jan. 10, Albert Hall, Stafford.

Quaintesques, The.—Jan. 10, Pal., Burton-on-Trent.

Qualities.—Jan. 10, Pal., Woking.

Rogues, The.—Jan. 10, Whitby Bay; 17, Redcar.

Superbs.—Jan. 10, Avenue T., Morpeth.

Supremacy.—Jan. 10, Arcadian Pav., Llandudno.

Topics, The.—Jan. 10, Brington.

Versatiles, The.—Jan. 10, Super Cinema, Horley; 17, Pal., Woking.

MAURICE PIENA.

Much interest attaches to the numbers issued by Maurice Piena this week. The high musical value of these numbers, and the excellent arrangement of them for orchestra, is worthy of the highest commendation. The "Sakuntala" overture, by Goldmark, is a work that is well known amongst symphony orchestras, and its beauties have appealed to many audiences. It is now arranged in such a way that its difficulties are overcome, and it is well within the scope of any orchestra. The beauty and passion of the andante movement, together with the strong climax, combined with the length and strength of this dramatic work, make it most popular. The harmonium part is fully cued. This part has been arranged by an organist of great experience.

"The Storm on the Plattensee," by Mihaly, opens with a heavy mysterioso movement, very short, connected by a cadenza in the piano with the allegro movement which afterwards develops with a solo piccolo accompaniment. The adagio is very beautiful, and alternates between solo violin and solo 'cello. It leans without a break into piu vivo, bringing the whole work to a presto finale. This work is highly descriptive of storm and rain, thunder, and flashes of lightning. Withal it is exceedingly beautiful, and is suitable for symphony orchestra or cinema.

It is claimed that "Schubert A Minor Sonata" is now orchestrated for the first time. This work forms a valuable acquisition to the classic side of Maurice Piena's catalogue, together with the little piece "Winter Time," by Schumann, both of which are too well known to need description. The last number, a beautiful one, "Valse Triste," is by Franz von Vascey, the well-known violinist.

MUSICAL BUREAU CHANGES.

The London offices of the Wolfsohn Musical Bureau will be removed on Feb. 1 from Oxford Circus House to 19, Hanover-square, and will thereafter be under the direction of the Messrs. Ibbs and Tillett, with Miss L. R. Ford, secretary of the London enterprise, as the especial "link" with the New York City headquarters of the American firm. Mr. Donaghey, resident manager of the London offices, returns to the States early next month, but will be back in London in April in connection with a theatrical enterprise of West End importance.

FIRST ENGLISH APPEARANCE.

Stefan Bielina, the young tenor who has recently escaped from Russia, will make a first appearance in England at next Sunday afternoon's concert at the Albert Hall. He is a graduate of the Kieff University, and made his debut at the Kieff Opera House at the very outbreak of hostilities. His contributions to Sunday's programme, which, by the way, is conducted by his countryman, Sergei Koussevitski, will be arias from Puccini's "La Boheme" and Tschaikowski's "Eugene Onegin."

From information received by the London office of the Wolfsohn Musical Bureau, Miss Daisy Kennedy (Mrs. Benno Moiseiwitsch) is not less successful in the United States and Canada than Mr. Moiseiwitsch himself. The young English violinist made her American début in November, and has already "collected a goodly Press," to quote Sir Henry Irving. She and Mr. Moiseiwitsch are to be heard again in London in April.

Lionel Gordon Hill, a 'celist of great promise, who has delighted large audiences in Southend, will be staying in Leeds for one year. He takes with him the very best wishes of his numerous friends.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

The A.A. Annual—A Debate on Sunday Shows—The Baddeley Cake-Cutting—A Co-operative Opera Season.

The A.A. General Meeting.

Members of the Actors' Association are asked to make a special note of Jan. 30, the date of the annual general meeting. Matters of vital importance will come up for discussion, an exchange of views on the Standard Contracts being, of course, of chief interest.

We hope that the agenda will include a reference to the representation of the Association on the Entertainments National Industrial Council. It is a pity if, after all the "spade-work" that has been done, a body capable of such useful service should lack the support of one of the principal sections of the profession.

Sunday Opening of Theatres.

The British Drama League has arranged an open debate on the question of the Sunday opening of theatres, which will take place at the Haymarket Theatre (by kind permission of Mr. Frederick Harrison) on Monday afternoon, Jan. 24, at 3 o'clock. Viscount Burnham will preside, and the meeting will be addressed by, among others, Mr. Arthur Bourchier, Mr. G. Bernard Shaw, Canon the Hon. James Adderley, and Mr. Alfred Lugg, officially representing the Actors' Association.

The meeting will be open to the public, but tickets admitting to the stalls may be obtained on application to the Hon. Secretary, British Drama League, 10, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C. 2.

The Baddeley Bequest.

The "legitimate" came into its own on Thursday, when for the first time for 50 years members of an ordinary theatrical company shared in the good things posthumously provided by Robert Baddeley, the former Drury Lane comedian. For the past half-century pantomime has held possession of "Old Drury" on Twelfth Night, and as the bequest left to the Drury Lane Fund provides that a cake is to be cut and wine provided for the company then engaged at the Lane, the participants have always comprised Aladdins, Cinderellas, Dames, Barons, and other adherents of King Pantomime. This year, however, as everyone knows, "The Garden of Allah" is blooming at Old Drury, and it was the members of that company who assembled in the saloon to assist at the historic function.

Mr. C. M. Lowne presided at the ceremony, and there were also present Mr. Godfrey Tearle, looking as little like the repentant monk he had just been playing as could be, and joking merrily with Miss Madge Titheradge, who had also cast off the cloak of solemnity which she had worn as the wife who had just bidden a long adieu to a husband under pathetic circumstances. Mr. Arthur Lewis, the abbé of "The Garden," and Mr. Caleb Porter, who plays the fortune-teller, were also present, together with Mr. A. W. Ketelbey, who has taken Mr. J. M. Glover's place temporarily at the head of Drury Lane orchestra. Miss Jessie Winter, Mr. Austin Melford, and Mr. Leslie Henson came along from neighbouring theatres.

Before cutting the cake, Mr. Lowne said that Mr. Frank Collins, the Master of the Fund, and Mr. Basil Gill, one of the directors, were unavoidably absent, so that they would have to put up with his inefficiency. Baddeley, said Mr. Lowne, died in 1794, and this was the 126th observance of the custom. He had left £100 in the Three per Cents. for the purpose of cake and wine being given in the green room to the company which should be in the theatre for the time being on Twelfth Night. For years, Mr. Lowne remarked, there had not been a green room at Drury Lane. Baddeley, who was a contemporary of Garrick, started life as a pastrycook, and he used to bring a cake to the theatre at that time every year. He was the original Moses in "The School for Scandal," and it was immediately after dressing for this part that he was taken ill and died.

The cake was then cut, port wine negus was handed round in silver bowls, and the memory of the founder of the feast was duly drunk.

Co-operative Opera Company.

A movement is on foot to run an opera company on co-operative lines. With this object in view several meetings have already been held at the Surrey Theatre, and those interested in the project include the Mayor of Southwark, Mr. G. Isaacs (chairman), Mr. and Mrs. Miln (lessees of the Surrey Theatre), the secretaries of the Actors' Association, the National Orchestral Association, the National Association of Theatrical Employees, the British Drama League, and the secretary of the Co-operative Union (Mr. Ralph Hibberd).

Some of the suggested features of the scheme are decidedly novel. The artists, principals, chorus, orchestra, and stage hands or "producers" would be invited to become members by taking shares, the minimum being £1, while the public, or "consumers," are to be invited to become members in a similar way, the maximum share capital being £100. It is suggested that the net profits, if any, should be devoted to form a reserve fund for artists in distress, while the shareholders' bonuses might take the form in the first instance of special facilities in regard to tickets for the performances, or of passes for extra performances. As to the non-sharing public, they would benefit by receiving an extra ticket after taking a certain number.

While it is proposed to include opera, drama, operetta and concerts within the purview of the new organisation, the first experiment will be made in the domain of opera, the lessees of the Surrey Theatre having offered that theatre for the purposes of the experiment. It is further hoped to form a body of artistic and financial patrons, who, in addition to becoming shareholders, will generously subscribe to a guarantee fund, which will be necessary to cover initial expenses until the scheme has been duly organised and set going.

Charles Cochran's Illness.

It is very hard on that indefatigable impresario, Charles B. Cochran, that he should be struck down by severe illness when he had all but finished his very arduous preparations for opening his beautiful New Oxford Theatre with the biggest spectacle which even he has yet attempted, "The League of Notions." Happily Mr. Cochran has a wonderful producer in John Murray Anderson, who is also the "deviser" of this evidently remarkable show. C. B. C. is also fortunate in his aide-de-camp and general manager, Clive McKee. So, at the moment of writing, it seems certain that the New Oxford will really open next Friday evening.

Latest Cochran Bulletin.

On enquiry at the hour of going to press we were glad to learn from Mrs. Cochran, who is so devotedly nursing her husband, that he is progressing favourably, and had passed a better night. He cannot, however, hope to be out for two or three weeks.

St. Martin's New Production.

The added demand for seats for "The Skin Game" consequent upon the announcement of the last weeks of the run, has been so great that Reandean have decided to continue the performances for a further week. The last performance will now take place definitely on Saturday, Jan. 29, on which date the play will register its 350th performance.

A few days later will see the first performance at the St. Martin's Theatre of the new comedy by H. G. Wells and St. John Ervine. Included in the cast are Miss Compton, Miss Moyna Macgill, Miss Agnes Thomas, Miss Ethel Griffies, Mr. J. H. Roberts, Mr. Lawrence Hanray, Mr. Fewlass Llewellyn, Mr. Malcolm Keen, Mr. J. A. Dodd, and Mr. A. G. Poulton. The scenery will be designed by Mr. George W. Harris, and some special musical preludes are being composed by Mr. Clive Carey.

Miss Iris Hoey.

We have just been personally informed by Miss Iris Hoey that she has ceased to be an actress-manageress; that she has, in fact, done with directing the Duke of York's. She will, however, continue to act there until at least the end of the run of "Teddy Tail," which, it seems, is booked for another month.

A Welcome Recovery.

The many friends of Harry J. Dellaway, so long "in front" at the Strand, and since the manager for José Levy's Grand Guignol enterprise at the Little Theatre, will be glad to learn that he has now recovered from a severe illness of nine weeks' duration and is back at business.

"Peter Pan" Afternoons.

While the "Peter Pan" daily matinees are to be continued at the St. James's Theatre until Jan. 29, inclusive, the last evening performance is announced for to-morrow (Thursday). This (Wednesday) and Friday evenings the Theatre will be dark for final rehearsals of the new play, "Daniel," which will be placed in the evening bill on Saturday evening, Jan. 15. The play has been adapted from the French of M. Louis Verneuil, and is in four acts. Its theme is modern. Mme. Sarah Bernhardt produced "Daniel" last autumn at her theatre in Paris, where it still continues. She created the title rôle, which, at the St. James's, will be played by Mr. Claude Rains. Following is the full St. James's Theatre cast:—

Marguerite Arnault	Alex. Carlisle
Maurice Granger	Leslie Faber
Albert Arnault	Lyn Harding
Daniel Arnault	Claude Rains
Jerome	George Elton
Etienne Bourdin	Henry Oscar
Francois	Garrett Hollick
The Doctor	C. Aubrey Smith
Suzanne	Alice Moffat
Madame Girard	Edith Evans
The Red Headed Girl	Gladys Gray

Back to "Milestones."

Mr. John Howell, who has been out of the cast of "Milestones" ever since the middle of December, suffering from an especially severe attack of influenza, has now returned to the Royalty Theatre. During his enforced absence his part of Arthur Preece, the Labour leader, has been admirably played by Mr. Michael Hogan.

A New Farcical Comedy.

Mr. Arthur Wontner celebrated the 100th performance of "The Romantic Age" at the Playhouse on Saturday evening. By the "gentleman's agreement" that London managers lately entered into with Lady Wyndham, the proceeds of that performance ought to go to the Actors' Benevolent Fund, but Mr. Wontner proposes to vary this agreement by substituting a special matinée at the Playhouse on Monday afternoon, Jan. 24, devoting the whole of the receipts of that performance to the Fund. On that occasion he will produce an entirely new three-act farcical comedy, entitled "A Lady Calls on Peter," by Mr. Henry Wall, a young dramatist who, in 1917, won a £200 prize for the best three-act play.

A splendid company of players have volunteered their assistance to Mr. Wontner in his praiseworthy endeavour to help the Fund, and perhaps help himself to a successful play. The cast will include, besides himself, Miss Hilda Trevelyan, Miss Laura Lydia, Miss Mary Barton, Mr. Tom Reynolds, Mr. Arthur Hambling, and Miss Lettice Fairfax.

"The Voice in the Street."

Mr. B. Thornley Dodge's one-act play, "The Voice in the Street," is being done at the Ambassadors on Jan. 26. The cast will include Miss Edyth Goodall, the author, and Mr. B. A. Pittar, who produces.

Actors' Benevolent Fund.

At the committee meeting of the A.B.F. on Jan. 6 the sum of £105 11s. 6d. was granted in relief, inclusive of emergency. Twenty-eight applications were considered, and of these 23 were assisted, irrespective of £67 18. 6d. granted in weekly allowances.

The Playwrights' Theatre.

The first essay of the Playwrights' Theatre, of which we gave particulars in a recent issue, will be a play by Mr. Patrick Macgill entitled "Moleskin Joe," to be produced by Mr. Ben Webster. Another interesting play in prospect is a dramatisation of Meredith's "Rhoda Fleming," by Mr. A. Phillipson. The secretary of the Playwrights' Theatre is Miss Irene Hentschel, 52, Acacia-road, St. John's Wood, N.W. 8.

Benefit for Famous Old Savoyard.

Mr. Rutland Barrington has been unable to follow his profession, owing to illness, for some very long time past, and so several of his friends have—by the kindness of Mr. Robert Courtneidge, who has placed the Savoy Theatre at their disposal—arranged to give him a benefit matinée there on the afternoon of February 11 next. The arrangements are in the hands of Mr. Herbert Jay, who is acting as honorary secretary.

It is hoped that playgoers will liberally extend their patronage, and that the theatre in which Mr. Barrington delighted them for so many years will be filled to overflowing on the afternoon in question. Already many of the leading London artists have kindly promised to appear. Communications should be addressed to Mr. Jay, at 26, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1.

English Actor's Overseas Trip.

Mr. Herbert Shelley has received flattering offers to visit the Manhattan Opera House, New York, and also to tour the Canadian Circuit, both of which he hopes to accept for 1922, his bookings for this country running him up to that time. When little more than a boy Mr. Shelley rode on horseback over the best part of the Canadian Pacific Railway in the Riel Rebellion, and served under the present Lord French, who was then Captain French. The last time he crossed the Atlantic was on the ill-fated Lusitania.

Latest Successes from New York.

Details fo the latest American successes to be produced in London are given by our New York correspondent on another page. "Deburau," which our representative describes as one of David Belasco's finest productions, has been secured by Mr. C. B. Cochran, and "Sally," a Ziegfeld production, which is to be numbered among the successes of the New York season, is in the possession of Mr. Gilbert Miller. Mr. Seymour Hicks will play the rôle of Deburau.

A Pantomime Presentation

Messrs. Murray King and Clark's "Dick Whittington" company had a splendid week at the Gaiety, Hastings, last week. Before the final fall of the curtain on Saturday night Mr. Murray King made one of his happy speeches, in which he thanked Mr. Charles Scutt (the popular and courteous resident manager here), each member of his own company, from the principal boy down, the orchestra, stage hands, box office attendants, &c., for all the hard work they had put in to make the show the huge success it is.

Mr. Scutt then stepped on the stage and presented Mr. King with the Blue Riband of the Gaiety (Mr. King hoped it was not teetotal!) as the firm of Murray King and Clark had broken all records of the Gaiety since 1882, an achievement to be proud of. Joining hands over the footlights, the whole company and the audience sang "Auld Lang Syne," which brought a joyous evening to a happy conclusion.

A New "Twelfth Night."

An entirely new study of "Twelfth Night" will be presented at the West Central Girls' Club, Tottenham Court-road, next Friday, under the direction of Mr. Sivori Levey.

The O.U.D.S.

The Oxford University Dramatic Society, which has given several actors now famous to the stage, will make its third production since the war on Feb. 6, when Shakespeare's "Antony and Cleopatra" will be staged for a week. Mr. Bridges-Adams, producer to the New Shakespeare Company, will produce.

A Birkenhead "Curtain."

Councillor W. W. Kelly has finally severed his connection with the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, after a quarter of a century's association with the house. Mr. Kelly's address in future is The Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, at which house, by the way, the Kelly-O'Mara opera season is doing great business.

Swindon Empire Staff.

The dawn of the pantomime season found the staff of the Swindon Empire in difficulties. On the eve of the first rehearsal both the local stage manager, Mr. William Cooper, and the electrician, Mr. Martin Reynolds, were taken seriously ill and have not been seen at the theatre since. Ever since the house was built, some twenty years ago, no pantomime has been produced there without the experienced help of "Bill" Cooper, so that this season things looked like being at sixes and sevens. But the occasion does sometimes find the man, and Mr. John Duck stepped into the breach at once and has filled it with satisfaction.

Mr. Cooper's illness has caused his friends many anxious moments, and they will be pleased to hear that his recovery, about which some fears were expressed, is now an established, though not yet an accomplished fact. Mr. Martin Reynolds, the electrician, is also slowly recovering.

"A Christmas Dream" Success.

"A Christmas Dream," the latest work from the pen of the young author, Mr. Vincent Douglass, has been presented to crowded and enthusiastic audiences at the New Brighton Winter Gardens during the past fortnight. The delightful production was acclaimed by public and press as "one of the most charming musical plays" witnessed at this popular theatre. Mr. Albert Douglass has arranged for the production, which includes Mr. Wilfred Shine (in three characters), to visit the Boscombe Hippodrome (this week), Aldershot, Worcester, and Southport.

On February 28, at the Dudley Opera House, the fifth consecutive tour of "The Jeffersons" opens, and continues throughout the year. "The Partners," the companion success, will also be presented at several theatres in conjunction with its famous precursor.

"THE BETROTHAL."

Fairy Play, in Two Parts and Ten Scenes, by Maurice Maeterlinck, Music by C. Armstrong Gibbs, Produced at the Gaiety Theatre on Jan. 8.

"The Betrothal," Maeterlinck's symbolical, psychological, and now and then biological and physiological sequel to "The Blue Bird," was presented by Messrs. Grossmith and Laurillard at the Gaiety Theatre on Saturday night. Maeterlinck, so it seems to us, builds on two mutually destructive theses, the first being that since a man's multitudinous ancestors are part and parcel of himself they naturally enter into and influence his every action, even his choice of a wife—e.g., he is not a free agent; the second—wherein the character of Destiny, who starts out as a loud-voiced, assertive giant and ends as a puling babe, plays his symbolical part—sustains the claim of the free-will faction, that man is the master of his fate, the captain of his soul.

Tyltyl of "The Blue Bird" is now seventeen, and ready to take a wife. They marry early in wood-cutters' circles. One morning the fairy Berylune (grown very cheery and jolly as Miss Winifred Emery shows her to us) appears to him in the cottage, and, while Tyltyl thinks over the qualities of six village girls he knows, brings them before him in the flesh with the help of the magic sapphire in the green hat. The Veiled Figure comes too, but Tyltyl does not recognise her. Accompanied by Light (Miss Stella Campbell, beautiful in a gorgeous cloth-of-gold robe) and Destiny, the whole party journey first to the Abode of the Ancestors and afterwards to the Land of the Unborn, the idea being that both those who went before and those who are to come insist on having a finger in every betrothal pie. The ancestors—a motley crew, among whom are a fine old hoary specimen of a cave-man (Mr. Henry Wenman), a picturesque mediæval murderer (Mr. Geoffrey Norman), a "great mendicant" (Mr. Tom Heslewood), and a "great peasant" (Mr. Percy Hubbard)—not being able to pick out Tyltyl's wife from the six girls, the discovery is left to the Smallest of the Unborn. The golden-haired baby, prettily played by little Gabrielle Casartelli, goes straight to the Veiled Figure, pulls away the wrappings from her face, and calls her Mother. This, the moving, dramatic moment of the play, owes a great deal of its effect to the pure beauty of Miss Gladys Cooper, who, on her gilt and blue throne, in her blue robe, manages, with that rapt expression on her lovely face, to look like some pictured Madonna of the Annunciation.

Back in the cottage again, Tyltyl himself recognises the Veiled Figure as Joy, his Blue Bird neighbour, and the earthly betrothal takes place amid the smiles and the blessings of the couple's mundane relatives.

Like many another fairy play, "The Betrothal" is saved by its producer, who is Mr. Granville-Barker; more than that, it is exalted to a triumph. There is a ballet—nothing to do with Maeterlinck, but an inspiration, no doubt, of Mr. Barker's, aided by the arranger of the dances, Mr. Laurent Novikoff set among red-brown fairy arches and arbours and dressed in wonderful dresses invented (like the scenery) by Mr. Charles Ricketts, which is one of the most beautiful scenes ever put on a stage. It is like a much-glorified Christmas pantomime, with its Little Bo-Peep, Boy Blue, Cinderella, Puss-in-Boots, and the rest. The dances, with Miss Carlotta Mosetti as danseuse-in-chief, are charming. Here Mr. C. Armstrong Gibbs' "motifs," which elsewhere only aim at suggesting character and atmosphere, have a chance to develop into very light and dainty dance music. It should be said that Mr. Leslie H. Heward's important part in the music, the orchestration, is done with deftness and complete understanding.

There is one opportunity for great acting, of which Mr. William Farren, as a Miser who gloats over his gold and then, under the influence of the sapphire, gives it all away, takes fullest advantage. Mr. Bobbie Andrews makes Tyltyl a very nice, amiable boy; Mr. Ivan Berlyn gets a good deal of fun out of Destiny's appearances and disappearances—and Miss Laura Smithson is excellent as bustling, hearty Mummy Tyl. Of the six girls, all pretty and clever, Vera Lennox, Lesley Winter, Nora Swinburne, Hazel Hamilton, Jane Grahame, and Margaret Shelley, Miss Winter, as Belline, the Butcher's Daughter, is the most distinguished.

WARRIORS' DAY & THEATRES.

When the Prince of Wales speaks in support of the Warriors' Day Scheme at Drury Lane Theatre next Thursday morning he will be supported by one of the most representative gatherings of those associated with the entertainment world that has ever assembled in London. Every post brings requests for tickets of admission to the meeting, but it should be clearly understood that such admission is reserved exclusively for those associated with public entertainment. Lord Beatty, Lord Haig, and Sir Hugh Trenchard are to explain the need for the effort which is to be launched at the meeting, and the subsequent speakers will include representatives of many of the organisations associated with entertainment. Though the list is not yet complete it is already arranged that the speakers will include Sir Squire Bancroft, Mr. William Boosey, representing the musical profession, Mr. Terence Cannon, representing the National Association of Theatrical Employees, Mr. George Grossmith, Mr. Gerald du Maurier, and Sir Alfred Butt.

Warriors' Day is to be observed on March 31, when it is hoped a matinée performance will be given in every theatre, music hall, concert hall, and cinema in the country in aid of Lord Haig's Fund for all Service men who may be in distress. Captain Willcox, to whom enquiries concerning Warriors' Day should be addressed at Drury Lane Theatre, W.C. 2, has already received many offers of help from those who are willing to organise entertainments in various parts of the country.

Mr. Charles Elderton has had to postpone the production of his new romantic play—"Carmello"—at the Palace, Tynemouth, until January 24. This is owing to the elaborate manner in which he is mounting John Bond and Fred Ramsdale's piece, and in order to extend the rehearsals of the operatic chorus numbers.

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ACTORS' ASSOCIATION MATTERS.

SECRETARY'S NOTES.

Ballot for New Members.

The ballot for the 1921 Council will close at 12 noon on Jan. 17. Ballot papers are sent out in every copy of the "Actor," and it is hoped that every member of the Association will record a vote. Any member who has not yet received a ballot paper should immediately communicate with head office.

Scrutineers for Ballot.

Four scrutineers are required to scrutinise the ballot papers for the election of the Council. They will be required to attend at 12 noon on Monday, Jan. 17, at the offices of the Association.

Re Correspondence.

Members will greatly help if they will always place at least two addresses at the head of their correspondence when on tour, as letters arriving over the week-end are often unavoidably delayed because of the difficulty in tracing the whereabouts of the artist for the following week.

Star Cards.

Members do not seem to be familiar with the advantage of taking out a Star Card. By paying 32s. a member is kept in benefit until the following March, and an enormous amount of labour is saved in the office. In fact, if every member would take out a Star Card the expense in running the office would be greatly reduced. It is hoped every member who can possibly do so will send 32s. to cover a Star Card for 1921.

Protection Fund.

All members elected previous to July 1 should have six Protection stamps (red) in their books; previous to Aug. 1, five; previous to Sept. 1, four; previous to Oct. 1, three; and previous to Nov. 1 two. All elected during December should have one

Annual General Meeting.

The annual meeting will be held at the Prince of Wales' Theatre (by kind permission of the management), at 3 o'clock, on Sunday, Jan. 30. Every member should attend, as matters of the utmost importance to the future of the Association will be discussed. The report of the past year's working will be placed before the meeting.

ALFRED LUGG,
General Secretary.

FRIDAY'S COUNCIL MEETING.

Minutes of the Council meeting held Jan. 7, 1921. Present: Mr. Ernest Hendrie (in the chair), Messrs. Herbert Pearson, A. Harding Steerman, Eric Albury, Cyril Austen-Lee, Frank Macrae, F. B. J. Sharp, Robert Michaelis, Clifford Rean, Alfred Harding, Bertram Wallis, Henry Vibart, Frank Irish, Luke Forster, J. Scott Leighton, J. T. Goddard (solicitor), Alfred Lugg (secretary), Misses Lilian Braithwaite, Jessica Black, Madge McIntosh, Haidee Gunn, and Mme. I. Beresford.

The solicitor's report was read by Mr. Goddard.

The Report of the Ways and Means Committee was read by Mr. Vibart. Discussion as to the placing of the "All Risks" Policy took place. Estimates were considered. It was finally decided to place same with the Eagle Star and British Dominions Insurance Company.

Mr. Vibart stated that the loss on the agency was not so great as at first anticipated. On his suggestion a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Cox for his endeavours to make the agency a paying proposition. This was proposed by Mr. Steerman and seconded by Mr. Michaelis, and carried unanimously.

The secretary reported upon his interview with Mr. Bromley Challenor. Letters from Mr. Akerman May, Mr. Louis Caeson, Mr. Percy Clarbour, and J. R. C. Hamilton were read. The secretary reported upon his interview with members of "Pretty Babette" and "Pinkspoo" companies.

A suggestion from members was read that the time of future general meetings be altered to the evening, to which the chairman replied that it would be noted for further reference.

THE NEW COUNCIL.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Dear Sir,—As a candidate for the A.A. Council, I should esteem it a favour if you will kindly allow me to state my policy.

I am in favour of using the full trade union weapon and of a fighting policy in all things.

I am a firm believer in a democratic association and the closed shop.

I shall be able to devote a great deal of my time to the work of the Council, and with 50 years' of experience behind me I hope to be of considerable value.—Yours faithfully,

C. HARGRAVE MANSELL.
The Actors' Association,
3d, Regent-street, London, W. 1.
January 8, 1921.

THE NEW OXFORD THEATRE.

A LORDLY PLEASURE HOUSE.

Not even the most ardent lover of old institutions will wish to pick a quarrel with Mr. Cochran on the score of vandalism for the transformation he has wrought in the erstwhile "Oxford." That famous Syndicate hall that stood in one of London's main arteries and outlived the majority of the Central London old-time music halls is now a thing of the past. In its place, or rather around its framework, has arisen a gorgeous and spacious playhouse—the last word in decorative luxury, a veritable fairy house. Mr. Cochran claims that the New Oxford Theatre is "the most beautiful theatre in England." After a thorough inspection on the occasion of the private view held last Friday, "The Era" representative is inclined to endorse this view, but it will be for the public to pass judgment when the theatre is re-opened on Friday with Mr. Cochran's "League of Notions."

On entering the theatre one finds oneself in an artistically furnished drawing-room, walnut-panelled with gold decorations and carpeted with soft velvet pile. Around the walls are cabinets containing delicate china and valuable pictures, that cannot fail to attract and interest all lovers of art. This is the striking metamorphosis effected upon the one-time famous Oxford "saloon."

Proceeding through the drawing-room or lounge into the auditorium, one finds the transformation almost equally remarkable. Gone is the pit. The whole of the parterre is now occupied by comfortable stalls, whilst four new boxes have been added. The decoration scheme here, as in the lounge, is an artistic triumph. The old-fashioned gilt plaster has disappeared, and from the dome of vivid turquoise hue there radiates through silvered glass the soft light of stars upon the rose-tinted draperies below; the effect is suggestive of an Oriental palace.

Of a truth Mr. Cochran has "built his soul a lordly pleasure house."

"CHARLEY'S AUNT" REUNION.

When it is considered that every member of the Charley's Aunt Club has to have been actively associated with that play, the size of the gathering at the Aldwych Theatre on Sunday, when the annual reunion was held, speaks volumes for the persistent popularity of that hardy perennial. It was a jolly and informal affair, presided over by Mrs. Brandon-Thomas in her own graceful way. Music was supplied by an orchestra, and the buzz of eager conversation was only interrupted by one or the other of the many excellent items on the programme, which were announced by Mr. Cecil Barth.

Mr. Vladimir Rosing, the great Russian tenor who has taken London by storm of late, gave four songs, of which two were Russian, one Somersetshire folk song, and the aria from "Pagliacci." He was accompanied by Mr. O'Connor-Morris; Miss Florence Smithard (contralto) sang; Mr. Bert Coote gave "I Do Like an Egg for my Tea"; Miss Dorothy Holmes-Gore sang two little nursery songs; Mr. Charles Tree, the well-known baritone, obliged with three songs; Miss Doris Hall gave two recitations in dialect; and Mr. Arthur Helmore was to the fore with his sermon on "Baa, Baa Black Sheep" and some imitations of well-known actors and actresses. The accompanist was Miss May Walker. The trio was under the direction of Mr. Hubert Bath.

Among those present were Mrs. Brandon-Thomas, Miss Amy Brandon-Thomas, Miss Eleanor Hare, Miss Dorothy Holmes Gore, Miss Lindsey, Miss Florence Smithard, Miss Dorothy Hall, and Messrs. Jevan Brandon-Thomas, Cecil Barth, G. W. Botell, W. W. Biddlecombe (manager of the Aldwych Theatre), Bert Coote, J. R. Crauford, Percy Crauford, H. D. Saintsbury, Robert MacDonald, Herbert Ralland, Charles Tree, George Morgan, William Kershaw, James E. Page, Myddleton-Evans, Lytton Grey, Horton Cooper, Wilfred, Forster, Eric Lugg, Arthur Helmore, William F. Terry, Antony Holles, and H. C. G. Stevens (press representative of the Princes and Aldwych Theatres). The old Charley Auntites obviously appreciated this little chance of meeting their colleagues, and the evening may be accounted a complete success.

Nearly two thousand poor children of Newcastle-on-Tyne were the guests of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of the city (Councillor and Mrs. T. W. Rowe) at a special matinée of "Cinderella," given at the Palace Theatre last week. The Lord Mayor has, for some considerable period, been the owner of the theatre, and Mrs. Rowe was also connected with the theatre before her marriage.

In the evening, after the second performance, the artists, who had kindly given their services, were entertained to supper on the stage, together with the staff of the theatre. The Lady Mayoress was presented with a bouquet by Miss M. Gaul, of the staff.

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ON THE ROAD.

[Will Managers kindly send in their Tour Lists for insertion in "On the Road" by Monday morning in each week.]

PLAYS.

Abbott (E. R.).—Jan. 10, Coronation Hall, Ulverston (3); 20, Coronation Hall, Ulverston (3).
Afgar.—Jan. 10, T.R., Cheltenham; 17, Emp., Kingston.
Austin (Mary) Co.—Jan. 10, Aquarium, Yarmouth.
Allington Charsley Opera Co.—Jan. 10, Emp., Rotherham; 17, Emp. Rotherham.
Baynton (Henry) Shakespearean Co.—Jan. 10, Lyc., Ipswich; 17, Emp., Penge.
Beverley (Hilda) Rep. Co.—Jan. 10, Alex., Newton Abbot.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Jan. 10, Alex., Hull.
Carl Rosa Opera Co.—Jan. 10, O.H., Bury; 17, T.R., Rochdale.
Carl Rosa Opera Co. (O. Section).—Jan. 10, Colwyn Bay; 17, Emp., Tonypandy.
Christmas Dream.—Jan. 10, W.G., New Brighton; 17, T.R., Aldershot.
Chu Chin Chow (Pink).—Jan. 10, T.R., Barry; 17, T.R., Leamington.
Cray, Oswald.—Jan. 10, Met., Glasgow; 17, Met., Glasgow.
Daddies.—Jan. 10, Emp., Penge.
Daddy Long Legs (Macdonald and Young).—Jan. 10, New Pal., Westcliff.
Dobell (W. L.) Rep. Co.—Jan. 10, Whitworth Hall, Drogheda.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—Jan. 10, New, Cambridge; 17, New, Cambridge.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—Jan. 10, O.H., Southport; 17, O.H., St. Helens.
Forbes-Robertson Co., Frank.—Jan. 17, New T., Oxford (3).
French Leave.—Jan. 10, County, Reading.
Hathaway Baron Rep. C.—Jan. 10, Globe, Consett; 17, Globe, Consett.
Her Bridal Night.—Jan. 10, County, Shrewsbury; 17, Emp., Aberdare.
Hill-Mitchelson Rep. Co.—Season, T.R., Leicester.
Hindle Wakes.—Jan. 17, T.R., Whitehaven.
His Little Widows.—Jan. 10, Hip., Devonport; 17, O.H., Torquay.
Home of the Fairies.—Jan. 10, T.R., Aston.
Home of the Fairies.—Jan. 10, Court, Warrington.
Irene (Butt).—Jan. 10 and 17, P.O.W., Birmingham.
Irene (Macdonald & Young North Co.).—Jan. 10, T.R., Bolton; 17, Grand Oldborn.
Kasrac and Brown (Rep.).—Jan. 10, Newquay and Launceston.
Kimberley and Clyde Rep. Co.—Jan. 10, Emp., Mountain Ash; 17, Emp., Mountain Ash.
Kinema Kid.—Jan. 17, Seaham Harbour.
(K)Night of the Garter.—Jan. 10, Pal., Llanelly; 17, T.H. Pontypridd.
Lawrence (Leonard) Rep. Co.—Jan. 17, Oswestry.
Lee (Ruby) and May (Eric).—Jan. 10, Theatre, Caerphilly.
Lilac Domino (Macdonald & Young).—Jan. 10, T.R., Dewsbury; 17, T.R., Blackburn.
Little Dutch Girl (Butt).—Jan. 10, King's, Glasgow; 17, Lyc., Edinburgh.
Lizzie.—Jan. 10, Pav., Leicester; 17, T.R., Macclesfield.
Lord Richard in the Pantry.—Jan. 17, County, Reading.
Maid of the Mountains (Macdonald & Young's South Co.).—Jan. 10, Grand, Mansfield; 17, King's, Gainsboro'.
Maid of the Mountains (Macdonald & Young's North Co.).—Jan. 10, Pal., Maidstone; 17, Grand, Luton.
Maude (Winifred) Rep. Co.—Jan. 10, Easington, Durham; 17, Alnwick.
Midsummer Night's Dream.—Jan. 10, Lyc., Ipswich.
Mr. Pim Passes By (Dudley Stuart).—Jan. 10., T.R., Norwich; 17, Lyc., Ipswich.
Nothing But the Truth (Macdonald & Young Co.).—Jan. 17, Grand, Nelson.
Oh! Betsy.—Jan. 10, Hip., Dover; 17, Hip., Eastbourne.
Oh, Joy!—Jan. 10, Grand, Halifax; 17, O.H., Southport.
Oh! Julie.—Jan. 10, T.R., Peterboro'.
O'Mara Opera Co.—Jan. 10, Shakespeare, Liverpool.
Osmond (Mrs. Fred) Co.—Jan. 10, G., Doncaster.
Our Peg (North).—Jan. 10, Court, Wigan; 17, T.R., York.
Our Peg (South).—Jan. 10, Grand, Swansea; 17, Pal., Ramsgate.
Paddy the Next Best Thing (Red).—Jan. 10, Pal., Gloucester; 17, T.R., Merthyr.
Pair of Sixes.—Jan. 17, R., Brighton.
Peg o' My Heart (Macdonald & Young).—Jan. 17, Emp., Preston.
Peter Pan (Malone).—Jan. 10, O.H., Blackpool.
Piccadilly Puritan.—Jan. 10, W.P., Brighton.
Quaker Girl.—Jan. 10, O.H., Burnley; 17, T.R., Castleford.
Ridding (John).—Jan. 10, Vic., West Stanley; 17, Colliery Empire, Easington.
Romance.—Jan. 17, Alexandra, Hull.
Rose of Araby.—Jan. 10, D.P., Eastbourne; 17, T.R., Bolton.
Ruined Lady.—Jan. 10, Hip., Rugby; 17, W.G., New Brighton.
Should a Husband Forgive?—Jan. 10, G., Doncaster.
Sign of the Cross.—Jan. 10, T.R., Whitehaven.
Silver King.—Jan. 10, Hip., Richmond.
Sons of the Sea.—Jan. 10, Emp., Wolverhampton.
Sybil (Geo. Edwardes).—Jan. 10, Prince's, Manchester; 17, Prince's, Manchester.
Three Weeks.—Jan. 10, T.R., Hyde; 17, T.R., North Shields.
Tickled to Death.—Jan. 10, T.R., Scarborough.
Tilly of Bloomsbury.—Jan. 10, G., Lancaster; 17, King's, Greenock.
Toto (Mark Blow).—Jan. 10, O.H., Kidderminster; 17, O.H., Coventry.
Young Person in Pink.—Jan. 10, O.H., Coventry; 17, Royalty, Chester.

REVUES.

Buzz Along.—Jan. 10, Hippo., Bolton.
Dardanella.—Jan. 10, Emp., Croydon; 17, Emp., Kilburn.
Dream Girl.—Jan. 10, Hippo., Leigh; 17, Emp., West Bromwich.
Flashes.—Jan. 10, Hip., Liverpool.
Follies of 1920.—Jan. 10, Pal., Hull.
Happy Island.—Jan. 10, Hip., Cannock.
Heads or Tails.—Jan. 10, Methil; 17, Leith.
Jack in the Box.—Jan. 10, Col., Long Eaton.
Jerry the Sailor Lad.—Jan. 10,, T.H. Pontypridd.
Jingles.—Jan. 10, King's, Southsea.
Moon Maiden.—Jan. 10, R., Barrow; 17, Pav., Ashington.
Mumming Birds.—Jan. 10, Hip., Southampton.
Mr. Tower of London.—Jan. 10, Emp., Edmonton.
Non-Stop.—Jan. 10, Pal., Reading.
Nothing Doing.—Jan. 10, Palace, Scunthorpe; 17, Pav., Leicester.
Oh, I!—Jan. 10, Pal., Tynemouth; 17, Crown, Eccles.
Oh! Laugh.—Jan. 10, Emp., Burnley.
Passing Show of 1921.—Jan. 10, Emp., Preston.
Patches.—Jan. 10, Hip., Southend; 17, Bedford, Camden Town.
Pretty Peggy.—Jan. 10, Olym., Shoreditch.
Ship Ahoy.—Jan. 10, Supar, Fife; 17, Hip., Airdrie.
Spankies.—Jan. 10, Hip., Portsmouth.
Spick and Span.—Jan. 10, South Wales; 17, South Wales.
Splinters of 1921.—Jan. 10, Grand, Luton; 17, Hip., Nottingham.
Sweet Fanny Adams.—Jan. 10, Pal., Bradford; 17, Hip., Ehesmere Port.

PANTOMIMES.

Aladdin (Bransgrove).—Jan. 10, Emp., Kingston.
Aladdin (Clements).—Jan. 10, T.R., Bath; 17, T.R., Bath.
Aladdin (Jazon and Montgomery).—Jan. 10, Hip., Preston; 17, Pall., Southport.
Aladdin (Perci Leonards).—Jan. 10, Hip., Chesterfield; 17, Eden, Bishop Auckland.
Aladdin (Neiman).—Jan. 10, Pal., Walthamstow.
Aladdin (Reliable Enterprises).—Jan. 10, Emp., Shepherd's Bush; 17, Emp., Chatham.
Babes in the Wood (Fredericks).—Jan. 10, T.R., Barnstaple.
Babes in the Wood (Moss).—Jan. 10, Col., Glasgow.
Babes in the Wood (Rigby.—Jan. 10, Emp., Burnley.
Babes in the Wood (Scott).—Jan. 10, King's, Dundee; 17, King's, Dundee.
Babes in the Wood (Ventom Swift).—Jan. 10, Lyric, Liverpool; 17, Queen's Pk., Manchester.
Babes in the Wood (Joe Collins).—Jan. 10, Emp., Kilburn.
Babes in the Wood (Wayne).—Jan. 10, Watford.
Cinderella (Bransgrove and Littler).—Jan. 10, Carlisle.
Cinderella (Brydon-Phillips).—Jan. 10, Hip., Ipswich.
Cinderella (Fred Collins).—Jan. 10, H.M., Aberdeen; 17, H.M., Aberdeen.
Cinderella (Clements).—Jan. 10, O.H., Cheltenham; 17, Met., Bootle.
Cinderella (Convery).—Jan. 10, Emp., Sunderland.
Cinderella (McKelvie).—Jan. 10, Lyc., Govan, Glasgow; 17, Pav., Clydebank.
Cinderella (Joe Collins).—Jan. 10, Hip., Woolwich.
Cinderella (Stephenson).—Jan. 10, St. Julian's, Guernsey.
Cinderella (Wylie-Tate).—Jan. 10, Emp., Sheffield.
Cinderella (Parsons).—Jan. 10, Pav., Chorley; 17, G., Stalybridge.
Dick Whittington (Bishop).—Jan. 10, G., Bolton.
Dick Whittington (Graham).—Jan. 10, G., Hanley.
Dick Whittington (King & Clark).—Jan. 10, P.G. Theatre, Folkestone.
Dick Whittington (Watson's).—Jan. 10, T.R., Guildford; 17, Marina, Lowestoft.
Dick Whittington (Wylie-Tate).—Jan. 10, Olym., Liverpool.
Dick Whittington (Campbell).—Jan. 10, New, Northampton.
Dick Whittington (Clements).—Jan. 10, Lyc., Newport; 17, Lyc., Newport.
Dick Whittington (Josh Clifton).—Jan. 10, O.H., Buxton; 17, T.R., Wolverhampton.
Dick Whittington (Jenkins).—Jan. 10, Pal., Chelsea.
Forty Thieves (Bransgrove & Littler).—Jan. 10, Hip., Huddersfield.
House That Jack Built (Palmer-Stanley).—Jan. 10, Crown, Eccles; 17, T.R., Scarboro'.
House That Jack Built (Wagner & Skardon).—Jan. 10, Crown, Eccles.
Humpty-Dumpty (De Lacy).—Jan. 10, Met., Manchester; 17, Hip., Rochdale.
Jack and the Beanstalk (Jazon and Montgomery).—Jan. 10, Osbourne, Manchester; 17, Pal., Liverpool.
Jack and the Beanstalk (Wayne).—Jan. 10, East Ham.
Jack and Jill (Moss).—Jan. 10, Emp., Newcastle.
Jack and Jill (Harry Nelson).—Jan. 10, T.R., Seaham Harbour; 17, Alex., Washington.
Mother Goose (A. E. Smith).—Jan. 10, Hip., Keighley.
Mother Goose (Ventom Swift).—Jan. 10, Hip., Bury; 17, O.H., Burnley.
Mother Goose (Fred Collins).—Jan. 10 and 17, Pav., Glasgow.
Puss in Boots (Brydon-Phillips).—Jan. 10, Royal, Windsor.
Red Riding Hood (Brydon-Phillips).—Jan. 10, T.R., Worthing; 17, Gaiety, Hastings.
Red Riding Hood (Convery).—Jan. 10, Pal., Newcastle; 17, Pal., Newcastle.
Red Riding Hood (Forde).—Jan. 10, Hip., Lewisham.
Robinson Crusoe (Forde).—Jan. 10, Emp., Stratford.
Sinbad the Sailor (Joe Collins).—Jan. 10, Hip., Poplar.
Tommy Trotter (McKelvie).—Jan. 10, Hip., Hamilton.

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Mitchelson, Mr. Angus Hill
Mizuno, Mr. Cartero
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Montesole, Mr. Max
Moore, Miss Decima
Moore, Miss Hilda
Morris, Miss William
Murphy, Mr. Jerome
Nash, Mr. George
Nestor, Mr. N.
Niblo, Mr. Fred
Niblo, Mr. Ruben
Nicholson, Mr. C. T.
Novello, Mr. Ivor
Norman V. Norman
Norton, Mr. A. B.
O'Cready, Mr. W.
O'Donovan, Mr. Fred
Oswald, Mr. Harry
Passmore, Mrs. Jim
Paxton, Miss Betty
Payne, Capt. P.
Peach, Miss M. A.
Pharos, Mr.
Pillans, Miss Helen
Powell, Mr. Temple
Price, Mr. C. Basil Burleigh
Pulman, Miss M.
Quinlan, Mr. T.
Raie, Miss T.
Rake, Mr. B.
Rand, Miss Dorothy
Ray, Miss Belle
Ray, Miss Nellie
Ray, Mr. W.
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Rickard, Mr. Frank
Richardson, Mr. A. J.
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Roberts, Mr. Arthur
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Rogers, Mr. Harry
Rolls, Mrs. B.
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Russell, Miss Bab
Sandro, Vio.
Scott, Mr. S. Austin L.
Seymore, Miss Margaret
Shaw, Mr. Harry
Silbon, Mr. B.
Silvester's Circus
Silward, Mr. E.
Skardon, Mr. C. H.
Smith, Mr. A. E.
Smith, Mr. A. C.
Somerset, Mr. & Mrs.
Sommerset, Mr. C. D.
Spencer, Mr. Harold
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Sterner, Mr.
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Stone, Mr. Reg.
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Sykes, Mr. Edwin
Talbot, Mr. Howard
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Taylor, Mr. Granville
Taylor, Mr. R. R.
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Temple, Miss Mollie
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Thompson, Mr. A. W.
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Thorne, Mr. E.
Thornton, Miss Violet
Tindall, Dr.
Tonzeau, Miss Gipsy
Tree, Miss Iris
Trehearne, Miss Kitty
Uifer, Mr. Richard
Vallarino, Miss Ida
Vere, Miss Grace
Vermont, Miss Yvonne
Vernall, Mr. F. A.
Vincent, Mr. W. G.
Vista, Madam
Vuire and Colley
Wain, Mr. Eric
Walker, Miss Mickey
Walter, Mr. Wyn
Ward, Mrs. D. E.
Waring, Mr. Herbert
Warrington, Mr. W.
Washburn, Mr. Bryant
Watts, Mr. Alfred E.
Waye, Mr.
Wellesley, Mr. Alfred
West, Mr. Harry D.
Whitcliff Ten Trio
White, Miss Lee
Wier Mr. George Frank
Wigan, Mr. Montague
Wilby, Mr. F. L.
Wilding, Mr. Harry
Wilkshire, Mr. V.
Willett, Mr. Fred
William, Mr. H. G.
Williams, Mr. Grafton
Williams, Mr. R. A.
Willis, Mr. Hubert
Wilson, Mr. Joseph
Winfields, The
Wingrove, Mrs. I.
Winskill. E.
Winter, Miss Jessie
Wood, Miss Daisy
Woodington, Miss Beatrice
Woodville, Mr. E.
Worth, Miss Constance
Wynne, Miss Wish

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

Happy Returns to—

Lady Bancroft, Wednesday, Jan. 12.
E. M. Robson, Wednesday, Jan. 12.
G. Herbert, Wednesday, Jan. 12.
F. Annersley, Wednesday, Jan. 12.
May Lilian Levey, Thursday, Jan. 13.
Haidee Wright, Thursday, Jan. 13.
Grace Lane, Thursday, Jan. 13.
Dolly Harmer, Friday, Jan. 14.
Robert Loraine, Friday, Jan. 14.
Dennis Eadie, Friday, Jan. 14.
Rutland Barrington, Saturday, Jan. 15.
Alexandra Carlisle, Saturday, Jan. 15.
Minnie Cunningham, Saturday, Jan. 15.
Sir J. Forbes-Robertson, Sunday, Jan. 16.
Betty Hicks, Sunday, Jan. 16.
Daisy Dormer, Sunday, Jan. 16.
Billie (of Dollie and Billie), Sunday, Jan. 16.
Sam Poluski, Monday, Jan. 17.
Olga Nethersole, Tuesday, Jan. 18.
Johnnie Schofield, Tuesday, Jan. 18.

[Photo. Dobson, Liverpool.

MISS MAUDE ESMOND.

Principal Boy, "Robinson Crusoe," Brixton Theatre.

Royal General Theatrical Fund.

The directors of the fund held their January meeting at Goschen Buildings, Henrietta-street, on Tuesday, the 4th inst., under the presidency of Mr. M. R. Morand, the chairman of the Association. Messrs. Douglas Gordon (hon. treasurer), Lionel Carson, Ralph W. Hutton, L. Cairns James, Herbert Lyndon, Frank Weathersby, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary) were in attendance. The accounts for 1920 were submitted for inspection. Matters in connection with advertising were discussed and instructions given.

Grateful thanks were accorded to the O.P. Club Aid Fund for a generous donation. Arrangements for the holding of the 76th annual festival were made, and other matters of business were considered and dealt with.

FREEMASONRY.

DRAMATIC LODGE OF ROYAL ARK MARINERS.

Mr. H. Percy Monckton, P.G.D. Mark., W.C.N., presided over the January meeting of the Dramatic Ark Mariners (held on Thursday last at the Mark Masons' Hall, Great Queen-street), supported by Messrs. Charles Cruikshanks, P.C.N., acting as Chaplain, W. E. Lincoln J., Passmore Edwards S., J. J. Pitcairn P.C.N., acting as S.D., James Sharpe, P.C.N., acting as Scribe, Will Sparks Treasurer, Jas. G. Gould Guardian, and P. Banchini Warder, as officers. Amongst those also present were Messrs. James Powell, P.C.N., Walter Schroder, A. M. Latham, G. Parkhurst Baxter, Ernest H. Paterson, J. Russell Maclaren, S. W. Rodgers, F. H. Conti and A. Gilchrist. Messrs. H. P. Edwards and A. Penman attended as visitors.

Messrs. S. A. Pope and T. C. N. Day were elevated to the ancient and honourable degree by Mr. James Sharpe, P.C.N., the ceremony being impressively rendered throughout.

Mr. W. E. Lincoln was unanimously elected Commandar for the ensuing year. Mr. Will Sparks was re-elected Treasurer and Mr. F. Banchini Warder. Mr. S. W. Rodgers was elected Auditor.

The Lodge voted a Past Master's Jewel to the outgoing Commander as a mark of their appreciation of his valuable services during his year of office.

The business being ended the Brethren adjourned to the Connaught Rooms to dinner.

"RICHARD II."

This play, which forms the third of a series entitled "The Trilogy of Freedom," by James F. Waight, is published by Messrs. George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., Ruskin House, Museum-street, W.C. The plot is founded on an exchange of infants soon after birth. While Lord de Cheval de Lisseverne was crusading his wife gave birth to a girl, and, aware that her husband wished for a boy, the infant was exchanged for a male babe, of which the wife of Thomas the Miller was the mother. William is accordingly brought up as the Baron's son, and when a young man falls in love with Calote, the supposed daughter of the miller, who, when dying, makes full confession of the deceit that has been practised on his lordship. For presuming to lay claim to the hand of Calote, who is sought in marriage by a friend of her father's, Sir Henry de Robartes, Lord Cheval directs that William shall be tied to a post and whipped. After this cruel treatment the young man becomes the leader of the band of Hertfordshire peasants who join the force collected by Wat Tyler. When King Richard meets the dissatisfied countrymen William acts as spokesman, but ultimately he is arrested and hanged as a rebel, to the grief of Calote, who curses her father for not intervening to prevent the death of her lover. The characters in the play include four sprites who, presumably, exercise an influence on the fate of the mortals in the story.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."
— *Tempest, Act ii, Scene ii.*

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— *Henry VI., Act ii, Scene iii.*

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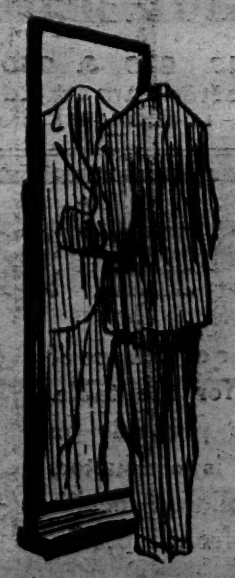

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SIBYL WARD will perform her ninth Shakespearean play, "Macbeth," at King George's Hall (Tottenham Court-road) on Tuesday, Jan. 18, at 8 p.m. Tickets, 1s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. Apply, SIBYL WARD, 4, St. Stephen's-square, W.2, or Park 5329.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S. O.—"*Mazeppa*" *was played at Astley's Theatre, Westminster Bridge, on April 4, 1831, and on Oct. 3, 1864.*

J. S. R.—*E. S. Willard played the Professor in its original production at the Comedy in 1894, and also in a revival at the St. James's in 1903. H. B. Irving played the part in a revival at the Savoy on Sept. 7, 1916.*

L. H. R.—"*A Playgoer's Memories*" *(Grant Richards, St. Martin's-street, Leicester-square, 18s. net).*

De Biere has introduced many little features into his entertainment at Maskelyne's for the benefit of small magic lovers, and continues to amaze young and old alike with his quick-changes and tricks; while Clive Maskelyne, with his new spiritualistic burlesque; Louis Nikola, George Bolton, the Okayama Troupe, and W. V. Robinson complete an exceptionally strong programme. All records for holiday attendances have, we hear, been broken during the last week at St. George's Hall.

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MISS MAUD F. RISELEY.

That musical talent is handed down from generation to generation of a family is well exemplified by the subject of our portrait, Miss Maud F. Riseley, A.R.A.M., whose father, Mr. George Riseley, Prof. R.A.M., is one of the best-known figures in the musical world of to-day. Prof. Riseley, who has been organist of Bristol Cathedral for over 40 years, is celebrated for his masterly conductorship of the Bristol Festivals, the Royal Orpheus Glee Society, &c., and has rendered valuable service to the musical life of the West of England. He has also found time, in the midst of his musical activities, to discharge many responsible civic positions, amongst others that of High Sheriff of

MISS MAUD RISELEY.

Bristol, which office he held for two years.
Making her début as a violiniste at the age of eight at Colston Hall, Bristol, Miss Maud Riseley went on to a highly successful course of study at the Royal Academy of Music under Emile Sauret, leaving the Academy as a Bronze and Silver Medallist, and having the honour of being presented by Queen Alexandra with a Prize Gold Bow. The Riseley Trio of Instrumentalists, so well known at Sunday League Concerts, was specially engaged by Miss Lena Ashwell in 1915 to join her concert party in France, and Miss Riseley had a strenuous and interesting tour through the battle area.
Miss Riseley has for some time past turned her attention to the task of supplying efficient tuition in orchestral work to the great number of musicians who find that their ignorance of orchestral work precludes them from taking the better-paid positions in the ever-growing musical world.
The musical director of one of the largest London cinemas, she holds her classes every morning from 10 to 1 at the practice rooms of the well-known Cinema Employment Ageney, 18, Cecil-court, Charing Cross-road, W.C., her guiding object being to help British musicians of both sexes to attain such proficiency in orchestral work as will fit them to take their fair share of the many well-paid musical positions open to competent musicians in cinemas, theatres, restaurants, dance halls, private dances, cafés, &c How well she has succeeded may be realised from the fact that every single pupil whom Miss Riseley has "passed out" has been fixed up by the Cinema Bureau in good positions.
Pupils studying under Miss Riseley enjoy the advantage of the unique facilities of the Employment Department of the well-known and old-established Cinema Bureau for placing musicians in lucrative positions in first-class orchestras. Ambitious musician studying orchestral work under Miss Riseley are thus in the happy position of being able to place themselves under the tuition of an experienced and authoritative teacher and at the same time to rely upon the Cinema Bureau to give them their start in the well-paid musical world as soon as they "pass out" as competent. It is significant of the sterling work done by Miss Riseley that the cinema has been able to make up combinations of her promising pupils and introduce them to good positions as trios, quartettes, &c. Another branch of musical training in which Miss Riseley is doing excellent work is in training ambitious violinists to become leaders. Where cinema work is the special aim of the pupil Miss Riseley gives thorough instruction and practice in the art of fitting the picture and arranging, an important part of a cinema orchestral leader's duties.

AMUSEMENTS IN SHANGHAI.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SHANGHAI, Dec. 1.—The Shanghai A.D.C. have played a series of performances to crowded houses at the Lyceum Theatre, giving that old favourite, "The Belle of New York." The composer was very lucky in being able to get the services of Mrs. O'Hara (Miss May de Sousa), and she met with a wonderful reception at every show. Mrs. Wingrove and Mr. Glanby, too, were very popular as Mamie and Blinky Bill. The whole of the character-parts are exceedingly well done, and the production reflected the greatest credit on Mr. Jack Raynes, who, by the way, was in the orignal show, and conducts the orchestra with all his old energy. We are promised a pantomime at Christmas.
The Bandmann Comedy Company is due here next week for a short season under the management of "Phil" Carlton. The list of plays promised is good, and the artists should do well here.
The Apollo and the Victoria Cinemas are both doing excellent business with fine programmes.

At the Kingsway, Beaumont and Fletcher's delightful revue, "The Knight of the Burning Pestle," is proving a great holiday attraction. The quaint humour, the Elizabethan costumes, the delicious mock-seriouness adoped by the players, forms a feast for the mind and the eye that cannot be surpassed.
The acting is marked by splendid spirit and unity of purpose, and very few of the parts are easy to play. Particularly do we admire the skill of Miss Betty Chester as the Grocer's wife, who will interrupt. The simple Master Humphrey of Mr. Ivan Berlyn and the Luce of Miss Sydney Leon, all difficult parts, excellently played

PLAY AND PAGEANT UNION.

A "CHRISTMAS FOLLY."

A rollicking week-end was provided at the Hampstead Garden Suburb Institute, when the enterprising organisation above-named presented an olla-podrida of fun and folly entitled
"SAN FAIRY ANN."
After a well-devised and novel prologue in ventriloquial vein we are introduced to a tabloid melodrama entitled
"BLOOD WILL TELL."
This burlesque of transpontine drama, by Enid Kelsey, pokes excellent if stereotyped fun at all the conventional features of that species of entertainment including, of course, the heavy-browed villain who turns up in evening dress both in and out of season. The company played with due extravagance, Mr. Cyril Kelsey scoring in particular as the villain, and Miss Doreen Burrows being a fine heroine.
"THE CAMEL AND THE VAMPIRE."
This Oriental pantomime, by Malcolm L. Prade, is enlivened by an imperturbable, pipe-smoking property-man who wanders serenely about the stage, and a stage-camel which is far from being placid. Miss Veronica Chambers spoke her lines nicely as Chorus, the camel was made a good figure of fun by Mr. Ivan Chambers (Front Legs) and Mr. Harold Marsh (Back Legs), Mr. Paul Jewitt was excellent as the taciturn property-man, whilst some capital miming and dancing was put in by Miss Eileen McLoughlin and Miss Nancy Scowby.
"GREEN CHARTREUSE."
Here we have a travesty of the unspoken drama, by Paul Jewitt, which is in the best spirit of burlesque, a commendation which applies with equal force to the musical accompaniment. Therein is portrayed, more or less faithfully, the life of the average bottle of Green Chartreuse from its distillation to its consumption (with attendant effects) by the fashionable swell—the latter brilliantly played by Mr. Phillip Jewitt.
"GLOOM."
A cameo, by Paul Jewitt, which goes to show how Fan, who displayed villainous proclivities and drank the cat's milk, was murdered by her aunt with a carving-knife. Capital fooling, but marred by a weak finish. All possible credit to the players, Mesdames Ida Ellwood and Isobel Lowman, and Messrs. Harold Jewitt, Laurence Tiffen and George Bradley.
"HARLEQUINADE."
The best was left to the last—namely, a whimsical little Harlequinade instinct with modern feeling and containing not a few new devices for Clown and Pantaloon. Congratulations to all concerned, especially the designer, Mr. Cyril Kelsey; the scenery painter, Mr. Frank Hart; the accompanist, Mr. Percy Meadows; and the première danseuse, Miss Joyce Ellwood, who pirouetted so gracefuly as Columbine.

Members of the staff of Harrisons and Crosfield, Ltd., will give a performance of "Eliza Comes to Stay" at the theatre of the Guildhall School of Music on Friday next at 7.15. Music will be discoursed by the South London orchestra, conducted by Mr. H. Walton Wheeler.

The Warwick Repertory will give a performance of "Uncle Ned" at the Central Y.M.C.A., Tottenham Court-road, on Saturday next at 7.30.

"BEDMATES."

A Comedy in One Act, by George Shiels, Produced at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, Jan. 5, 1921.
Pius Kelly ..... Barry Fitzgerald
Andrew Riddle ..... Tony Quinn
Bertie Smith ..... Michael J. Dolan
Molly Swan ..... Maureen Delany

The little comedy above-named proved a genuine success, the piece abounding in sparkling topical dialogue which caused no end of laughter. The scene is laid in a Dublin "doss-house," and the fun revolves round the endeavours of Bertie Smith, an English "thimble rigger," to secure possession for the night of the one remaining bed in Molly Swan's house, from Andrew Riddle, a Dublin ragman, and his friend, Pius Kelly, a North of Ireland ragman, who have both paid in advance and agreed to share the bed for the night. Bertie Smith manages to sow dissension between the two ragmen, and takes possession of the bed, but is eventually ousted by the cunning of the Southern ragman, his friend from the North, though at first "irreconcilable," in the end agreeing to "come in," leaving the Englishman to take his departure in disgust. The comedy developed into a pointed political satire, played with right good humour throughout. Mr. Barry Fitzgerald as a Dublin ragman surpassed himself, both in acting and make-up, his many witticisms evoking much merriment. Andrew Riddle, the Northern ragman, was capably portrayed by Tony Quinn; Mr. Michael J. Dolan gave a capital character study of an English cockney; and Miss Maureen Delany as the landlady acted realistically.

THE EX-SERVICE ACTOR.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—A book with the title "The Soul of the War" has recently come to my hands. It is by Philip Gibbs (now Sir Philip), and is published by Heinemann.
Several "articles" of mine bearing on the same points of view were religiously refused everywhere in 1919, when I came back from France.
The book should be circulated in a cheap edition all over the world and in every language. It tells the truth and shows the real hideousness and criminality of modern warfare. No one who was not in the war actually can possibly realise what it really was, and so "forgetfulness" grows apace already. On all hands we read of unemployment. We do not hear much of "want" amongst actors (and actresses, too, bless them and keep them safe somehow), but it exists, although proudly hidden.
I personally must not complain, but more, much more, must be usefully done for ex-Service actors. It should be a privilege to do so.
"The Soul of the War" ought to be read by all, and then on their knees those who were not in it should beg to be allowed to help to "better things generally" in every and any way they can, for others, and particularly for those who "served."
The spirit of grab and "place seeking" for self is growing apace. The war would seem to have taught people very little, so far.—Truly ours,
J. HENRY TWYFORD.
O.P. Club, Jan. 6, 1921.

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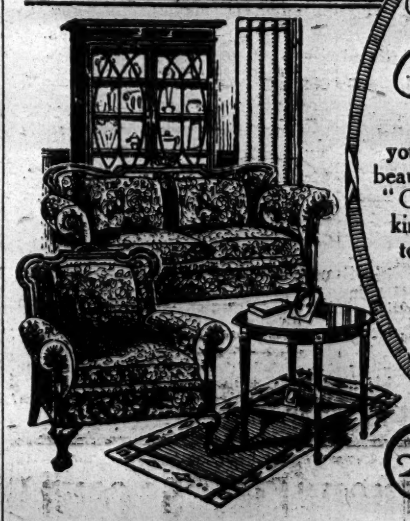

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THE ERA

WIRES: "The Era," London. ESTABLISHED 1837. 'Phones: 4546 and 4547 Regent.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1921.

BUDGETTING FOR 1921.

DIFFICULTIES of an unparalleled character confront the entertainment caterer in the current year. Conditions which since the declaration of peace, and even during a period of the war, enabled people to buy at prohibitive prices are rapidly disappearing, and the return to a more or less normal state finds people unwilling to spend in any direction in which it is not absolutely necessary. Money is tight, business in all directions is slack, and the New Year shows no signs of that impetus to trade which we are accustomed to expect. The spectre of unemployment is everywhere, and grim poverty, if not generally in evidence, is only lurking in a corner.

Effect of Trade Slump.

It is only natural in these circumstances that amusements should be amongst the first to suffer, and the word "slump," which is being so extensively used by traders, cannot but extend to places of entertainment. Nevertheless, the provider of amusement has to contend with ever-increasing expenses. Hitherto, his extra outlay has been to some extent met by fuller houses, but with the tightening of purse-strings that is admittedly going on, conditions so favourable cannot be expected to continue. It is therefore highly important that the proposal to raise prices of admission should be closely examined. Prices in some music halls have been substantially increased—in some cases doubled—but the fear is expressed that the result has been in too many instances an array of empty benches, a condition which our own observation has served in many instances to confirm.

If the estimates for the year make it imperative for prices of admission to be raised, we would advocate a drastic revision of rates all round—the throwing overboard of the traditional charges—the 1s. gallery and the half-guinea stall—and the adjustment of prices to the cost of production. The principle is adopted, particularly in the provinces, of special rates for special engagements, but seldom are prices lowered in agreement with the cost of mounting. A production with a small cast and no elaborate setting could run at lower prices of admission than those of a spectacular production, the accommodation of the house, of course, being taken into account. The effect would be that the best productions would no longer draw the largest houses, but that patrons of the theatre would fit their playgoing to their purses. In the case of three theatres at least in the West End the path to prosperity has been found throught the medium of popular prices. Why should not that system be adopted in the case of plays with small casts that have been running successfully for many months? We do not suggest the prices at these houses should be reduced, but we think it should be competent for the management when attendances begin to languish to adjust rates accordingly, rather than to plunge at once into the outlay required for a new production. It is more to this principle than to the fact that patrons cannot be found that the constant conversion of theatre and music hall to the cinema may be attributed. The fact that larger dividends can be made with a smaller outlay with pictures is a circumstance that appeals powerfully to the commercial mind, but it is not for the betterment of the public or that portion of the public who like to be amused, but are determined to get their entertainment at the lowest possible cost.

Graduated Charges.

Everybody is looking forward hopefully to the restoration to a certain extent of pre-war prices in regard to things that have been prohibitive in price, and amusement providers will benefit accordingly, but this will be more than compensated for by the increase in running expenses. Economy should therefore be the watchword for the present year—not the economy that would "spoil the ship for a ha'porth o' tar," but which would enable the manager to realise a profit and yet give the public what it wants.

THE PLAY IN PARIS.

Playwrights' Society Productions—Wagner Renewed and "Beethoven" Revived—Cyrano Reappears—New Bill at the Odeon.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Sunday.—For the second venture of the present season the Co-operative Society of Playwrights presented on Thursday two items at the Theatre des Arts. As a curtain-raiser Alfred Mortier has written "Galatée," on the Greek story of Pygmalion, giving the classical legend a modern tinge. When the statue has come to life the materia' side of the sculptor's character is revealed, and he would fain possess Galatée as his mistress. During a brief absence the philosopher Nécias initiates the living statue into the mysteries of the world, preaching the loftiness of the mind compared with the baser frenzy of the senses. When Pygmalion returns he finds Galatée a changed "woman." She offers a pure, platonic friendship, and when the sculptor passionately kisses the lovely creature his art has created she again becomes marble. The idea is pretty and the dialogue pleasing.

"Bonheur."

Lees artistic and graceful is the three-act effusion of Charles Oulmont which forms the principal portion of the new programme at the Arts. Happiness, like the sword of Siegfried, must be forged by its owner. M. Oulmont unintentionally exploits this thesis, in a somewhat clumsy style, in the matrimonial match-making of a foolish mother who imagines she is promoting the future happiness of her son by arranging his marriage with a girl who does not reciprocate his love. Thus Jean is united with Gassienne, though she prefers their mutual friend Maurice, whom the scheming mothe is anxious shall marry her daughter Simone. As was to be expected, the sacrificing wife soon becomes the mistress of Maurice and ultimately elopes, with the husband's consent. He is grief-stricken, but for a while hides from his sister the identity of the man who has destroyed his happiness, for he knows Simone is infatuated with Maurice and will be miserable. Finally he reveals the treachery which has taken place, and brother and sister reproach the unfortunate mother for her interference.

"Beethoven."

Jacques Hebertot, himself a poet, was well advised in reviving last Tuesday, for a fortnight, René Fauchois' versified biography of the later period of the musician's career, but we fear the author was not equally well counselled in personally acting the title-role. Nevertheless the performance at the Theatre des Champs Elysées is one the young management can be justly proud of, and will warrant further artistic adventures of the kind. Produced in 1907 at the Odéon by Desjardins, "Beethoven" comes as a novelty for many playgoers now in Paris, while the accompaniment, in the form of selections from the great master's symphonies, so admirably executed by the large orchestra of the opera house in the Avenue Montaigne, under the baton of Pierre Monier, will attract music-lovers as well as poets.

"Cyrano de Bergerac."

P. Frondaie's drama, "L'Appassionata," has been withdrawn from the Porte St. Martin, and was replaced on Wednesday by the late Edmond Rostand's most popular play, with P. Magnier as Cyrano, L. Gauthier as Christian, and Mme. G Darthy as Roxane.

Wagner at the Opera.

For the first time since the Germans made their declaration of war an entire Wagnerian work was presented in Paris on Thursday evening at the National Academy of Music. "Walkyrie" was revived and received without any interruption. As a matter of fact, the work was cheered, contrasting vividly with the first performance of Richard Wagner's music in this city following the Franco-Prussian war.

"Notre Passion."

Last night the Odéon presented a prosaic piece, in four acts, by René Wachthausen and Gabriel Reuillard. The action is laid in modern times, fringing on political spheres. A statesman has had a liaison with a married woman many years. He becomes enamoured of another married lady, and wants to be off with the old love, but the first sincerely loves her companion and refuses a separation. The man dies accidentally, and it is the turn of the second mistress to feel the pangs of sorrow. The authors would convince us that a violent passion is sure to lead to a calvary. This psychological essay, nicely explained and played, was well received by the critics. At a matinée on Friday the Odéon revived Alfred de Musset's "Fantasio."

A PANTOMIME RETROSPECT.

FROM OLD BILL TO COMEDY QUEEN.

By MARTIN ADESON.

As I originally appeared at the Surrey Theatre, London, with the Adeson Family as children in the pantomime, "Hop o' My Thumb," I can go back some years. I have played in panto. regularly since a boy until three years ago, when I started as Old Bill in "The Better 'Ole," with Chas. B. Cochran's company, a part I have played 1,600 times. I had no idea of going into panto. again, but Mr. Cochran having nothing for me at present, I came to Glasgow to play the Queen in the Wylie-Tate production at the Alhambra.

Pay More and Want Less.

Present-day pantomime has certainly changed greatly in character since the days of the old Surrey Theatre, and most people will agree that the changes are for the better. No audience now would stand a rollicking farce, a comedy-drama, and a

Photo, Relph, Preston.
MR. MARTIN ADESON.

lengthy pantomime, from demon-scene to harlequinade, all in one evening. They pay more, and want less. The result is a tabloid entertainment, with something for everyone—clever children's scenes for the youngsters, attractive principals and chorus to please the older generation, artistic scenery and dresses that appeal to the æsthetic taste, and music of every age and clime, from Gluck and Mendelssohn to Darewski and Bennett Scott, for in these democratic days we must remember to cater for all our patrons, from the Johnny in the stalls to the messenger boy on the top shelf.

The "Prodigal" Up to Date.

I have good reason to remember my first adventure into professional life. The late Gaiety favourite, Edmund Payne, and I were boys together. We ran away from home to join a company we had seen advertised in "The Era."

In those days the bogus manager was rampant (he is not dead yet), and we got there by train, but walked back home, 60 miles, in three days! Teddy, like the prodigal son, was regaled with fatted calf, but my reception was different. Father opened the door to me and merely said, "Merciful heavens, back again!"

"Pinafore" in 45 Minutes.

After their Surrey experience the Adeson Family went to the Polytechnic in Regent-street, and played excerpts from comic opera, &c., and even dared to produce a condensed version of "H.M.S. Pinafore," six of us, from the opening chorus to the finale, in 45 minutes! I ran my own company in burlesque and drama for several years, being (like Maggie Morton) the youngest manager on the road. I have had Lyn Harding, Walter Passmore, Walter Summers, Walter Groves, and many other star turns in my company, and, of course, my two brothers, Stephen and Charlie.

A Varied Career.

I was ten years principal comedian with George Edwardes' companies in "The Shop Girl," "Messenger Boy," "My Girl," "Geisha," "Greek Slave," &c., and have been to South Africa under his banner. Eleven years ago I played a season of musical comedy and comic opera at Buenos Ayres, and was leading comedian in twelve different pieces—some graft. I am cosmopolitan as far as theatres and music halls go—from the "Plumbers," in conjunction with Harry Grattan, to "Dr. Maud's First Patient," with my wife, known as Clara Bernard, I have toured for several years. A big music hall magnate said of the latter piece: "This little 18-minutes skit has more laughter in it than any show on the halls, considering its length and the few people in the cast."

THE DRAMA IN AMERICA.

"Deburau"—Barrie Play at the Empire—Ziegfeld Success of the Season.

(FROM "THE ERA" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—"Deburau," a play in four acts, adapted by Granville Barker from the French of Sacha Guitry, was produced by David Belasco at the Belasco Theatre on the 23rd inst. The play recreates artistic Paris of the year 1839, with Jean Gaspard Deburau, most celebrated of the Pierrots, as its central figure. There are four scenes in the first act, showing the exterior, the auditorium, the stage, and again the auditorium of the Theatre Funambules. There is a performance in pantomime of "Marchand d'Habits." Deburau has been singled out for adulation by a dramatic critic and the players are agitated. Marie Duplessis meets Deburau at the stage door. The scene of the second act is a week later at Marie's apartment, where Deburau has spent most of his time. When he pays a duty visit home and finds that his wife has run away he starts joyfully back, with his bird cage tucked under his arm, leading his ten-year-old son with one hand and his little dog with the other, bent on laying them all at Marie's feet and spending the rest of his days in her radiant company. But he finds her in the arms of a new lover, a handsome young fellow of her own age, and Deburau reads his sentence in her compassionate glance. Amid his startled apologies and adieux, she tries to introduce them as the curtain falls.

Seven years later we find Deburau dwelling in a garret with his son Charles, now a strapping fellow of 17. Poor Deburau, sick in spirit and half sick in body, has been absent six months from the cast at the Funambules. It is the more disturbing, therefore, for him to learn that his son, who has always been his prompter and his most devoted audience, now aspires himself to play Pierrot, and, with the callousness of youth, actually thinks of doing so under the name of Deburau. The elder puts his foot down hard, yet he knows uneasily that the boy has only to wait. Marie brings a doctor who is to patch up her old friend and restore him to the stage. Quite unaware of his patient's identity the doctor prescribes a magic medicine. It is the theatre. Deburau laughs grimly, but the doctor persists. At the Funambules there is, or was until a short time ago, a mighty healer called Deburau. That is enough. The old comedian reaches for his hat, and much uplifted starts for the stage he has deserted. The fourth acts passes that afternoon on the stage of the Funambules. Deburau is there again, but as he plays there is not the old laughter, and, knowing this, he falters and blunders until the first hiss is heard in the auditorium. An uproar follows, and the comedian steps forward, lifting a shaking hand for silence. He opens his mouth, but no word comes, and he falls back on the eloquent speech of pantomime. In gesture he tells them how sick he has been, how sick he is, that he can no longer play for their delight, that this is his last appearance. When the audience has dispersed and the manager is preparing the new playbills for the night, Deburau tells him he need not trouble to change the name of the Pierrot. Deburau pleads for his son as his successor, and from his box of colours and grease he makes up the boy for the night's performance, imparting to him the while in a beautiful speech the secret, the spirit, the philosophy of his craft.

In this play Mr. Belasco brought forward Lionel Atwill as a star. As Jean Gaspard Deburau Mr. Atwill has scored an unqualified success in a difficult rôle, as the play becomes at times a monologue for the principal character, and is written, moreover, in rhymed verse. Elsie Mackay is charming as Marie Duplessis, the original of Dumas's Camille; and Sidney Toler is very good as the "barker." The cast includes such well-known players as Rose Coghlan, Joseph Herbert, Hubert Druce, John L. Shine, and Rowland Buckstone, all of whom do excellent work.

"Mary Rose."

A few months ago its was announced that Maude Adams would enact the title-role of Sir James M. Barrie's latest play, and the return to the New York stage of an actress who had been literally idolised by our playgoers was discussed with joyful anticipation. The plan fell through, however, and Ruth Chatterton was chosen for the part. Miss Chatterton won popularity in "Daddy Longlegs" and other plays with Henry Miller. Both her personality and her method are charming, but in the role of Mary Rose she is miscast. However, the play is such a masterpiece and is so admirably acted on the whole that it holds the audience spell bound, and the Empire Theatre, with the magic name of Barrie over its portals, will be crowded nightly for a long time to come. Tom Nesbitt has scored a signal success in the dual role of Simon Blake and Harry.

"Sally."

Sally is a dish-washer at the Alley Inn, who is palmed off as a notorious Russian dancer by a theatrical agent at a garden party given by a millionaire in honour of the Duke of Czechogovina. A revolution has compelled the Duke to earn his living as a waiter. Sally becomes a prima donna, and when her lover learns that she is not the wicked dancer she was supposed to be there is a wedding at the Little Church Around the Corner. This is an outline of the plot of a three-act musical comedy called "Sally," produced by Florenz Ziegfeld, junr., at the New Amsterdam Theatre on Dec. 21. Marilynn Miller's singing and dancing is the most popular feature of the show. She is at her best in the very beautiful Butterfly "Ba let number," composed by Victor Herbert. Leon Errol plays the Duke who becomes a waiter. He sings an amusing song called "The Schnitza Komisski," and his funny falls and antics send the audience into convulsions. Other favourites are Irving Fisher, Walter Catlett and Mary Hay. The book was written by Guy Bolton and the lyrics by Clifford Grey, while the music was composed by Jerome Kern and Victor Herbert. The most popular numbers are "Look for the Silver Lining," "Whip-po-Will," "The Wild Rose," "Sally," and "The Little Church Around the Corner." One of those tasteful productions for which Mr. Ziegfeld is famous, "Sally" will be numbered among the successes of the season.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

This Evening—Second production of "Twelfth Night."

* * *

Since "Twelfth Night," by the way, usually applies to January 6, should we not also halve "The Second in Command" and "The Thirteenth Chair"?

* * *

I noted that the fair Evelyn appeared in a beautiful sleigh on New Year's Eve. Did you see Evelyn's-Laye?

* * *

'Twas a wonderful New Year's Eve-lyn!

* * *

Arthur is not playing a cat this season, but has changed to a witch's part. Which-is a change.

* * *

In his new rôle he is still A Conquest.

* * *

Have you seen that stallites will have to pay 24s. to witness "A League of Notions"? Wonder how they'll like *that* notion?

* * *

"Irish Players for Hull City" runs a headline. Referring to footballers, not Thespians.

* * *

"Why," queried a disappointed playwright, "does not the public tell us what it wants?" It sometimes does—when it wants its money back, for instance.

* * *

Another quibbler cannot understand why Aladdin should be played by a girl. Custom dies hard. They've always had a-lad-in the part.

* * *

I was interested in the point of view of the critic who argued last week that pantomimes were the best entertainments because they were the longest. The best audiences are not those whose faces are the longest, though!

* * *

To conclude with a riddle: Why is a pantomime like a cigar? Give it up? Because, if it is good, we all want boxes, while if it is bad no amount of puffing will make it draw.

WHAT'S ON IN TOWN.

ADELPHI (Strand, W.C.). — "The Naughty Princess," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 2645.

ALDWYCH (Strand, W.C.). — "The Private Secretary," twice daily, 2.30, 8.15. Cent. 7170. Gerr. 2315.

ALHAMBRA (Leicester square). — "Johnny Jones," 8.15. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 5064-5. Reg. 2522.

AMBASSADORS (Cambridge Circus, W.C.).—"The Whiteheaded Boy," 8.30. Tues., Fri., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 4360.

APOLLO (Shaftesbury avenue). — "French Leave," 8.30. "Where the Rainbow Ends," daily, 2.15. Gerr. 3243.

COLISEUM (Charing Cross).—Karsavino, Winston's Water Lions, Cecilia Loftus, Frederick Bentley and Co., Two Bobs, &c. 2.30 and 7.45. Gerr. 7540.

COMEDY THEATRE (Panton-street, S.W.).—"The Charm School," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3724.

COURT (Sloane-sq.)—"A Midsummer Night's Dream," twice daily, 2 and 8. Gerr. 848.

COVENT GARDEN O.H.—"Cinderella," twice daily, 1.45 and 7.45. Gerr. 640-621.

CRITERION (Coventry-st.) — "Lord Richard in the Pantry," 8.30. Tues., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3844.

DALY'S (Cranbourn-street, W.C.).—"A Southern Maid," 8. Tues., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 202.

DRURY LANE (Drury-lane, W.C.).—"Garden of Allah," 8. Wed., Thurs., and Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 2588.

DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.).—"When Knights Were Bold," 8. "Teddy Tail," daily, 2.30. Gerr. 314.

EMPIRE (Leicester-square).—"Irene," 8.15. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3527.

GAIETY (Strand W.C.). — "The Betrothal," 8. Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 2780.

GARRICK (Charing Cross-road, W.C.).—"Brown Sugar," 8.30. "The Shepherdess Without a Heart," daily, 2.30. Gerr. 9513.

GLOBE (Shaftesbury avenue).—"Fedora," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 8722.

HAYMARKET (Haymarket, S.W.). — "Mary Rose," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., and Sat., 2.30. Reg. 6030.

HIPPODROME (Cranbourn-st., W.C.).—"Aladdin," twice daily, 2 and 7.45. Gerr. 650.

HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket).—"Chu Chin Chow," 8. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 1777.

KINGSWAY (Gt. Queen street, W.C.).—"Knight of the Burning Pestle," 8.30. Mon., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 4032.

LITTLE (John-street, Adelphi).—Grand Guignol, 8.15. Thurs. and Sat., 2.30. Reg. 2401.

LONDON PAVILION (Piccadilly-circus, W.).—"London, Paris, and New York," 8.15. Tues. and Sat., 2.30.

LYCEUM (Wellington-street, W.C.).—"The Babes in the Wood," twice daily, 2 and 7. Gerr. 7617.

LYRIC (Shaftesbury-av., W.).—"A Little Dutch Girl," 8. Wed. and Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3687.

NEW (St. Martin's-lane, W.C.).—"The Wandering Jew," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 4466.

PLAYHOUSE (Charing Cross road, W.C.).—"Romantic Age," 8.30. Mon., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3970.

PRINCES (Shaftesbury avenue). — "Charley's Aunt," twice daily, 2.30 and 8.15. Gerr. 3400.

PRINCE OF WALES (Coventry-street, W.).—"The Blue Lagoon," 8.30. Mon., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 7482.

QUEEN'S (Shatesbury-av.).—"It's All Wrong," 8.20. Thurs. and Sat., 2.20. Gerr. 9437.

ROYALTY (Dean-street, W.1).—"Milestones," 8.15. Thurs., and Sat., 2.30.

SAVOY (Strand, W.C.).—"Paddy the Next Best Thing," 8. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3366-7.

SHAFTESBURY (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"The Great Lover," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 6666.

ST. JAMES' (King-st., W.).—"Peter Pan," daily, 2. Tues., Thurs., 8. Gerr. 1903.

ST. MARTIN'S (West-street, W.C. 2). — "The Skin Game," 8.30. Fri. and Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 1243.

VAUDEVILLE (Strand, W.C.).—"Jumble Sale," 8.25. Tues., Fri., and Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3815.

WINTER GARDEN (Drury-lane). — "A Night Out," 8. Tues., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 416.

WYNDHAM'S (Charing Cross-road, W.C.).—"The Prude's Fall," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3028.

THEY SAY—

That Eva Moore and H. V. Esmond have experienced twenty degrees of frost in Canada.

* * *

That Ellen Terry has received flowers every evening from admirers during her appearance in the old English Nativity play.

* * *

That Arthur Conquest, despite the fact that he generally plays cats and monkeys, is really quite human.

* * *

That Compton Mackenzie is superstitious over peacocks' feathers.

* * *

That once, while discussing this superstition, he received a gift of two peacocks; the next night, the house he had been visiting was burnt down.

* * *

That the Chow in "Through the Crack" has had a will made in its favour.

* * *

That Mr. Cochran believes the New Oxford will be our most fashionable theatre.

* * *

That one playwright spent Christmas writing a Grand Guignol "thriller," lasting four minutes.

* * *

That Alfred Lester hopes, after his stay in Switzerland, to visit Algiers and Southern Spain.

* * *

That Rita Lee, who is to appear in "The League of Notions," was nick named in South America "La Pavlovita."

* * *

That Leslie Henson's new flat in St. James' is being decorated by demobolised officers.

* * *

That Alla Nazimova, when not acting for the camera, wears glasses.

THE VARIETY WORLD.

A Welcome Return—Understudy Gets her Chance—A Leicester Palace Record—Blind Tenor's Debut.

Sir Harry Lauder's Return.

Sir Harry Lauder, who has not been seen on the London stage for some years, will open at the Palace Theatre for a season of four weeks on Jan. 31. Sir Harry will bring with him a budget of new songs, but some of the old favourites will be included in his repertoire, which he will change every week. The famous comedian will be supported by a first-class variety company.

H. M. Tennent.

Mr. H. M. Tennent has been appointed successor to the late Mr. Herbert Mitchell as the head of Moss' Empires Booking Committee.

Mr. Bert Adams.

On visiting the Holborn Empire on Monday we found the genial Mr. Bert Adams, late of the Olympia, Shoreditch, officiating as manager.

Understudy Gets Her Chance.

During the indisposition of Miss Elsie Prince, the Hippodrome Aladdin, who has been out of the bill with acute laryngitis since two days before Christmas, her understudy, Miss Ivy Pole, has been "carrying on" very successfully. Called on at almost a moment's notice to take up the part, she has acquitted herself exceedingly well.

Like Elsie Prince, Miss Pole is a youngster of only 17. She has been on the stage just seven years. Her first appearance, curiously enough, was in "Aladdin" at the London Opera House, where she was entrusted with a song and dance in Widow Twankey's Kitchen scene. Miss Pole next joined the cast of "Baby Bunting," and later made her début on the halls in a single turn. Pantomime claimed her in the following year, and she appeared in the "Babes in the Wood" at the Aldwych. She was next with Mr. Arthur Aldin in "The Happy Family," and Mr. Fred Allandale at Blackpool, and last year, when she had just celebrated her sixteenth birthday, she played principal boy at Bath in "Jack and Jill."

Sam Mayo's New Song.

Sam Mayo must again be congratulated on his originality with his comedy numbers. In the past Sam has provided numerous artists with original songs, these including "Smith, Jones, Robinson, and Brown," which is being sung by 89 artists at present. At Hammersmith on Monday Sam produced—with unqualified success—a decidedly original number entitled "This is the Wife," which, cleverly constructed and set to a most tuneful melody, is sure to become one of the best numbers he has given us.

"Kings and Queens."

A note in our issue of last week stated that Mr. Ernie Lotinga's new sketch had been postponed on account of the comedian playing in pictures, but we find that this is an error. "Kings and Queens" has been twice postponed owing to the indisposition of Mr. Adolph Luck, which has prevented him from attending rehearsals. The sketch is now in preparation and will be produced by Norman Lee at the Grand, Clapham, on Jan. 24.

Violet Black in a Lee Sketch.

Miss Violet Black, so well known for her "In the Tube" sketch, which had a long run in England and America, has contracted with Norman Lee to write her a new sketch, which will be produced in about four weeks' time. After an English tour with Mr. Lee's sketch she will proceed to America.

Eric Randolph.

Eric Randolph, the tenor, is now rehearsing his new production, "The Happy Vagabond," under the direction of the author, Norman Lee.

Maggie Benson.

After six months' absence from the halls, Maggie Benson made her reappearance on Monday evening at Hammersmith, where she was accorded a hearty reception. Maggie, who has a most artistic taste in dress, was wearing a charming pink gown.

Record Matinée at Leicester Palace.

The result of the recent matinée on behalf of the Leicester Royal Infirmary, which took place at the Palace Theatre, was made known at a meeting of the Matinée Committee last week. The amount handed over to Mr. Fielding Johnson, jun., the chairman of the Board of Governors, was £720 10s. 10d. This, we hear, is the largest amount that has ever been recorded at any one performance in the city. It is a remarkable tribute to the popularity of the Palace annual matinée on behalf of this deserving charity. Sir Oswald Stoll is a life governor of the infirmary, and takes a great interest in the matinée.

Empire, Wolverhampton.

Mr. Bertram Seabrook, who is now managing the Empire, Wolverhampton, tells us that house is to be reconstructed and completely renovated, and will be closed for two weeks from the 29th, re-opening with a first-class show. Mr. Seabrook, by the way, recently won a prize in a competition promoted by the Beck Cinematograph Co., and was highly complimented by the managin gdirector on his excellent composition.

Blind Tenor's Début.

On Monday next a new tenor who is blind is to make his appearance at the Canterbury Music Hall. His identity is hidden behind the stage name of Philip Shapire, and for some time he has been studying under one of the best Italian singing masters of the day.

Dollie and Billie.

Those clever and talented young artists, Dollie and Billie, are concluding their town engagements for the present at the Wood Green Empire this week. Dollie and Billie commenced their career in America when they were seven and five respectively, and quickly became big favourites. Since they came to this country, about eighteen months ago, they have been very successful. Their present act is winning golden opinions everywhere, being most artistic ally presented, and the numbers have been well chosen to enable Dollie and Billie to display their wonderful versatility. Next week they open on their provincial tour at the Palace, Leicester, where they are already established favourites. On their previous trip round the provinces they were topping the bill at most of the halls at which they appeared.

"Oh, Laugh's" Record.

Next week Harry Slingsby's popular revue, "Oh, Laugh," is having a well-earned week's rest. It had only one week out last year—Good Friday week—and the show is booked solid, and will be in town on the Syndicate Halls shortly. Its success is largely due to that clever comedian, Billy Caryll, whose work has come in for golden opinions. He is a naturally funny comedian who does not rely on a comedy make-up. Hilda Mundy is a very charming leading lady, Billy Rutherford a really first-class juvenile lead, and Betty Moore and Harry Kynman are successful in their part of the entertainment.

Artists' Comfort Studied.

Artists who require really good accommodation in town should make their headquarters the Caledonian Hotel, Harpur-street, near Southampton-row. A very comfortable hotel, it contains 100 large bedrooms, writing-rooms, smoking-rooms, cosy lounges, &c. The cuisine is first-class, and the service excellent. Members of the profession may be assured that their comfort will be carefully studied, and the fact that the hotel is under the personal supervision of the proprietor, Miller Gordon, late of the Shaftesbury Hotel, should be sufficient recommendation.

Tom Titt's Impression of Lotinga.

The good-natured smile of Ernie Lotinga that separates the lower part of the face from the upper and looks like a huge cut is part of his clever make-up, declares Tom Titt. His mouth is really uncommonly small, and there is an absolute absence of lips. I do not want to be personal, but as a caricaturist I have a certain licence. Lotinga is intensely human, and so friendly disposed that even if he plays a comic villain he moves one to a sympathetic laughter, and no wonder that full-up houses usually roar with delight at his antics. I cannot think of any other comedian who moves people to tears, but laughter mingled with tears does one good.

Roxy La Rocca.

Roxy La Rocca, the wizard of the harp, met with enthusiastic receptions at the Shepherd's Bush Empire last week, and had to take tab calls at each performance. After playing Brighton and Plymouth Roxy returns to town to the Palladium.

Violet King.

Miss Violet King, the brilliant violinist, who has been having a very successful tour of the provinces, completes her engagements on the Moss' tour in a few weeks, when she returns to town, opening at the Bedford on Feb. 7. We hear that Miss King's brother, Charles Warwick Evans, the well-known 'cellist, who has been touring America with the London String Quartette, returned to England last Wednesday, after a very successful trip.

Phil Rallis Trio.

The Phil Rallis Trio are, we hear, proving one of the decided successes in the Wylie-Tate production of "Dick Whittington" at the Olympia, Liverpool, in which Harry Weldon plays Idle Jack. A very amusing scena—Rescuing a Maiden—shared by Harry and Phil, gets screams of laughter from the audience at every performance.

The Kenna Bros.

At the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, where the Drury Lane panto., "Babes in the Wood," is the attraction this season, the Kenna Bros. (the funny airmen), in addition to playing the part of the Robbers, are also giving their own screaming comedy act, "To the North Pole," which is one of the outstanding features of the show.

Minnie Collins.

At the Golders Green Hippodrome last week Minnie Collins was a great favourite in the title-role of Arthur Watson's pantomime, "Dick Whittington," her clever interpretation of the part and also her pleasing rendering of some popular numbers being much enjoyed. At the end of the run of the panto. Miss Collins will resume her single act on the halls, which is well booked up, and will be seen in town next June.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

The Committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild wish to express their grateful thanks to the Variety Artists' Federation for their generous donation of £104 2s. 5d., and to Messrs. William and Strahan for £2 2s. Committee subscriptions of 2s. 6d. have been received from Miss F. G. Clark and Miss Margaret Campbell. Lady Stoll is thanked for her donation of £2, and Mr. F. J. Gordon for 5s., per the Secretary.

The annual matinée of the Guild takes place on March 3. An appeal is made to help maintain the poor little children and orphans of the variety profession.

The Terriers.

At the meeting on Sunday last Dick Henderson officiated as W.T., George Wisdom as V.T., Ken Barton, G.C., Joe Adkin, W.I., Eddie Gray, W.D., Dick Suthord, Y.B., Wilkie Warren as Organist, and Arthur Were, Secretary.

A hearty welcome was extended to Ken Barton, Wilkie Warren, and Tom Ford upon their re-appearance in the Kennel.

Mr. Braddy Shaw was initiated into the Mysteries of the Order, Terrier Walter Norman, G.T., acting as sponsor.

The following application for membership has been received: First notice, Frank Dunlop.

Any Terrier who has not received particulars of the annual general meeting is asked to communicate with the Secretary.

A special pantomime night will be held on Sunday, Jan. 30, 1921, when all Terriers who are working in pantomime, in or near London, will be entertained by the Order.

All Terriers in town on Sunday next are asked to attend the usual meeting of the Order.

For South Africa.

The following artists sailed from Southampton on Friday last, the 7th inst., per R.M.S. "Kinfauns Castle," to fulfil engagements with the African Theatres Trust, Ltd., booked by the I.V.T.A., Ltd.:—Clifford and Gray, Jephson and Du Barri.

Many Happy Returns.

Tom Waters, of Waters and Morris, has been obliged to rest owing to an attack of bronchitis, but we are glad to hear that he hopes to resume at Hull this week with his partner. Tom, who celebrated his thirtieth year on the stage on Jan. 9, made his first appearance as "Rats, the news-boy, in Chas. H. McCarthy's "One of the Bravest," at Taylor's Opera House, Trenton, New Jersey, U.S.A. On Monday Tom also celebrated his birthday, and a legion of friends will wish him many happy returns. Tom and Eddie will next be seen in town at the Metropolitan on Feb. 7.

Jack Patterson.

Since he produced his new act about a month ago Jack Patterson, the novelty juggler, has been having a very successful time, and is being rapidly booked up. Jack, who did very well at the Euston last week, opens on the L.T.V. next week at Willesden.

"Aladdin" at Willesden.

Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter's panto., "Aladdin," played to excellent business at the Hippodrome, Willesden, last week. The production is an excellent one, the scenery and dresses being magnificent. The cast included Vera Rejane as Aladdin, Primrose Hill as the Princess, Ernie Whitmee as Abanazar, Chester Cortney as Widow Twankey, Louis Gaye as Wishee, Olga Sydney as Pekoe, Vi Lawrence as Nicee, Mullaney Bros. as Policemen, and other clever artists, who all worked splendidly together to ensure the success of the show. "Aladdin" is at Kingston this week, and Putney the following week.

"GEE GEE CHAPLIN."

A WONDERFUL EQUINE ACT.

This wonderful and novel act, presented by Dan Chary at the London, Shoreditch, is a remarkable exposition of equine sagacity, the mimicry of this most human of horses being a thing to be marvelled at even in these days of music hall wonders. Dressed up like Charlie, with false arms, with which it indicates its ideas as well as whispering them to Dan, it cuts a truly comical figure. Carrying a little cane, and with red sock and quaint shoes like its human prototype, this equine wonder smokes cigarettes like one to the manner born. To see it smile at a lady is quite a revelation of horse sense. It shows us how, as a "conchie," it dodged Army service. He holds a rope while a dog skips. A slight readjustment of his toggery suffices to convert Charlie into a Highlander, and he can simulate the careless sprawl of his namesake in remarkable fashion. He thoroughly enters into the fun of the turn, and it is quite evident that he and his trainer are on most friendly terms. This turn is sure to be immensely popular.

New Cross Empire.

Miss Florrie Forde's "Robinson Crusoe" pantomime, with Miss Ford as Crusoe, played to capacity business last week at New Cross Empire, where a new entrance in front of the house has been built. The New Cross Empire is now managed by Mr. Pierre Cohen.

George Carney.

The popular comedian, George Carney, is to be heartily congratulated on the pronounced success of his new scena, "In Saffron Hill," which was a principal attraction last week at Shepherd's Bush, where patrons accorded him a very hearty reception for his amusing and original study of the Hokey-Pokey Man.

A Clever Cat.

Mr. Tim Playford, who was playing the part of the Cat in "Dick Whittington" at the Hippodrome, Golders Green, last week, met with much appreciation for his clever work. During the interval he made a tour of the house in his make-up, much to the delight of the youngsters, who were greatly amused by his antics. After the run of panto. Tim resumes his single act on the halls.

Erne Warsaw.

At the Shepherds Bush Empire last week the novelty musical episode of "Pan and Pandora," presented by Erne Warsaw and his partner, Miss Evelyn Brewster, proved a very entertaining item on the programme, and was received with much favour. Erne, who is very amusing as Pan, is a musician of much ability, and he receives excellent support from Miss Brewster in the clever and witty dialogue which runs through the act. After touring the D. J. Clarke Circuit Erne and his partner return to town to play the Coliseum.

Jack Warman.

Jack Warman, "The Stick of Mirth," who has been playing the principal comedy part in Joe Hayman's successful production, "Jack in the Box," for some months past, will be seen at the Metropolitan on Monday in his single act. The following week Jack returns to the aforementioned production, which opens on the L.T.V. circuit on Jan. 31 at Willesden.

MY MUSIC HALL TOUR.

TONGUE-TWISTERS—THE SORROWS OF PAN—VARIOUS KINDS OF HUMORISTS.

Articulation was never one of my strongest points, and I have been tripped up, in my time, by a certain tongue-twisting man who stood on the steps of Burgess's salt fish shop "welcoming him in," by a lady who sewed shirts, by a couple who sighed side by side at the seaside, by a ragged rascal who ran round a rugged rock, and various other trying folk.

At the Shepherd's Bush Empire.

But I do not think anyone has tripped me up more effectively than Adam Tomlinson did last week at the Shepherd's Bush Empire. He asked me (and others) to help him sing a chorus, the first four lines of which ran:—

"There's no need to light a night-light
On a night that's like to-night,
For a night-light is a slight light
On a night that is not light."

I did not help him. (Nor did the others.) Even though he considerately had the words displayed on a screen, we merely blinked and murmured soft nothings, leaving Adam to do all the work. And as he worked alone quite effectively, it really didn't matter after all.

I like Adam Tomlinson. He is breezy and cheery, and a very pleasant tonic for January bills. One of his best stories was about a man who, having a big and a small wheelbarrow to take from one place to another, took the big one first, and was blamed by his boss for lack of brains. "You should have put the little barrow in the big one, and so saved yourself a journey," the boss pointed out. "How foolish of me!" exclaimed the man, and went back with the big barrow to fetch the little one. Adam went well.

It is difficult to refrain from writing eulogistic paragraphs about George Carney, but I gave him so much of my space last week that I shall merely record the fact that he received call after call. Roxy La Rocca, the wizard of the harp, who followed, soon captured the ears of the audience, and also met with the heartiest of receptions.

There was a good deal of more or less straight music on the programme. We had De Alma, with his banjo, and Jean Andrews, L.R.A.M., "the golden-voiced soprano." This singer has a remarkable voice. Another singer was Josephine La Barte, who imitated other stars very pleasantly at the piano.

Erne Warsaw is a very odd fellow. I have only seen him once before, when his assistant was a man. Now it is Miss Evelyn Brewster, who ably backs him up in his satirical sketch, "Pan and Pandora." The purport of this sketch, apart from its mission to make one laugh, is to depict the sensations of the mythical gods and goddesses of old when coming into contact with modernity. The pipes of Pan are killed by jazz. Olympus sinks, and Hampstead Heath rises in its place! (I speak metaphorically, but if Erne Warsaw cares to convert the idea into a reality in his next edition, he can do so.) Although Pan's tears do not hold any real anguish—I suspect the fellow of jazzing when he returns to Olympus—there are one or two harrowing moments when one wishes Pan might become the genuine Pan and carry us back and away from this age of tin cans and kettles!

At Hammersmith Palace.

Hammersmith and Shepherd's Bush are pleasantly close, and I wandered leisurely to Hammersmith, where an excellent programme awaited me.

The three principal humorists were Ernest Hastings, George Mozart, and Harry Champion, about as varied a selection as one could happen on. Harry Champion is a comedian who gives you straightforward humour at top speed, and is a great favourite. Ernest Hastings is a clever and polished humorist. I commend the philosophy in his new song, "There is No Rise in the Price of Sunshine." It is an attempt to make us realise that the best things have not gone up in price, but are within everyone's reach. Even though I am saving up for a motor-car, I appreciate the point of this song, and agree with it. If I get the motor-car, well and good; but if I do not, better things still remain for me to enjoy.

The third humorist of the trio, George Mozart, is quite unique. With nothing more than a hat and an infinite capacity for making grimaces, he could keep you entertained for an hour. He also knows a-hundred-and-one different ways of walking, ranging from the method of Bill in the Old Kent-road to that of Mabel of Mayfair. I always feel that the host who includes George Mozart among his guests at Christmas-time is a very lucky fellow.

A surprise was provided by Thora, a lady ventriloquist, who, after speaking for her male puppet, turns out herself to be a man. You do not know this until the final call, when "she" takes off her wig. Eric Randolf sang his well-known vagabond song. Daisy James tickled her audience with "If I Can't be Good, I'm Very Careful," and Florence Desmond, who deputised for Madeleine Harrison, did excellently.

The final turn was Merle's Cockatoos. I knew that dogs and elephants and pigeons and monkeys and sea-lions could perform tricks, but I always had an idea that parrots confined their ingenuity to saying "God Save the King." Merle's cockatoos showed me that I was wrong, and that, among other things, parrots can stand on their heads.

EXTRA TURN.

SONGS AND SINGERS.

B. Feldman and Co.

Bransgrove and Slaughter's "Aladdin" pantomime proved most successful at Willesden Hippodrome last week. Primrose Hill, in "For One Sweet Day," and Barbara Bruce, in "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles," were big favourites.

At Golders Green Hippodrome last week Arthur Watson's "Dick Whittington" production featured successfully four Feldman numbers, viz., "Open Your Heart and Let the Sunshine In," "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles," "Oh, What a Difference the Navy's Made to Me," and "Beautiful Ohio."

"Jingles" continues its merry way, Kitty Emson making a great hit in "Movieland" and Florence Williams scoring in "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles."

Edward H. Scully, concert artist, writes: "I am making a special feature of 'What Made My Mother Join the Waacs?' the song proving a big favourite wherever I sing it."

Lewis Roberts' Canadian Choir is an outstanding success at the Ex-Service Men's Exhibition at the White City. The Choir features "Let the Rest of the World Go By" and "Across the Still Lagoon" in a finished manner—balance, blend, tune and style being alike good.

Albert Whelan makes his usual success with "She Was a Wonderful Girl." Violet Levy is conspicuously successful in "Oh, What a Difference the Navy's Made To Me" and "You're a Million Miles From Nowhere."

Mona Vivian's big hit in Theatre Royal, Birmingham, where she is playing principal boy, is "Movieland."

A dainty turn at the Metropolitan last week was Iris and Phyllis, who proved very popular in "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles" and "Oo La La Wee Wee."

At the Pavilion, Chorley, this week, the Parsons' Family pantomime features "Let the Rest of the World Go By" (Maggie Parsons, principal boy), "Oh, What a Difference the Navy's Made to Me" (George Parsons and full chorus), "Oo La La Wee Wee" (Alice Parsons, second boy), "When a Peach in Georgia Weds a Rose from Alabam" (Louie Parsons, fairy, and full chorus). With reference to the foregoing, Horace V. Newton, L.C.M., musical director, says: "Conductors who do not introduce 'Let the Rest of the World Go By' are turning down an immense asset. It proves a phenomenal success at every performance of this pantomime."

Jenny Reeve, principal boy in George Campbell's "Sinbad," is a very big success in "Oh, What a Difference the Navy's Made to Me" and "Oo La La Wee Wee," while Lola Reeve (principal girl) makes a fine and successful feature of "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles."

Fred Clements' touring pantomime, "Aladdin," features Flo Le Roy (Princess) in "Oh, What Pal was Mary," Jean Robey (Slave of Lamp) in "Beautiful Ohio," and Daphne Joy (Aladdin) in "Oh, What a Difference the Navy's Made to Me."

Nell Calvert has been specially complimented for outstanding work in "I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles." Miss Calvert scores heavily with "Oo La La Wee Wee" and "Oh, What a Difference the Navy's Made to Me" also.

Star Music Co.

The Star Company continues to receive letters and telegrams of congratulation from innumerable artists who are featuring the firm's outstanding successes, "Your Wonderful Heart of Gold," "If We Found a Little Corner in this Great Big World," "There's a Little Bit of Devil in Ev'ry Little Angel," "Cupid Plays the Dickens With Us All," and "Why Did You Teach Me to Love You?" To include all the names or artists who are singing these numbers is impossible in the space at disposal. Fred Barnes, at the Coliseum, Glasgow, is singing "There's a Little Bit of Devil in Ev'ry Little Angel." At the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, Nancy Benyon and Agnes Croxton are featuring "If We Found a Little Corner in this Great Big World." J. H. Wakefield is making good with "Cupid Plays the Dickens With Us All" in John Hart's production of "Mother Goose" at the Theatre Royal, Manchester. Madge White and Gabriel Ray are also very successful with "If We Found a Little Corner in this Great Big World."

Margot Howard (the Fairy) in Fred Warden's "Sinbad" production at the Theatre Royal, Dublin, reports an enormous success with "Your Wonderful Heart of Gold." George Bass and Phyllis Deane are featuring with great success "If We Found a Little Corner in this Great Big World" at the Theatre Royal, Bradford. Jack Cromo's "Jack and Jill" production has three winners in "Your Wonderful Heart of Gold," featured by the Fairy, Florence Chance. Meg Hamilton sings "Stop It, John"; Dorothy Brett (Jack) and Yvette Cazman (Jill), "If We Found a Little Corner in this Great Big World."

Millie Jillson, the principal boy in Brydon Phillip's "Puss in Boots" production, reports an enormous success at the Theatre Royal, Windsor, with "There's a Little Bit of Devil in Ev'ry Little Angel" and "The Rose of Alabam." Victor King, writing from the Empire, Dublin, says: "'Your Wonderful Heart of Gold' is the hit of the show, a triumph absolutely." Harry Robinson, who is playing Captain in Joe Collin's "Sinbad the Sailor," is scoring heavily with this number, and has the house with him at the Hippodrome, Poplar, this week. Reg Ewen reports a big success with "Cupid Plays the Dickens With Us All" at the Elite, Bordesley, last week.

Mr. Ewen is featuring this number and also "What Would the Wife Say?" at the Empire, Shoreditch, this week. Bond Rowell is creating a big impression at the Palace, Bath, for his artistic rendering of 'Your Wonderful Heart of Gold."

Lawrence Wright Music Co.

One of the outstanding successes in Florrie Forde's touring pantomime, "Red Riding Hood," which is playing at Lewisham this week, is the excellent vocal work of Mr. Alfred Jepson, who is heard to special advantage in "City of Laughter, City of Tears." Mr. Jepson, immediately pantomime is over, resumes his music hall engagements, and will, we hear, feature an all-Lawrence Wright programme.

Miss Ethel Leslie, who is playing lead in Mr. Dick Ray's "Aladdin," which is this week at Walthamstow, writes that she is delighted with the number "I'm Coming Back to Li'l Old London," also "Wyoming Lullaby," which she sings with Mr. Ernest Ludlow, who is playing Emperor. She states that "Wyoming" is a positive riot, and that last week at Watford everyone in the town was talking about it.

Miss Millie Jillson, playing principal girl with H. Brydone Phillips' "Puss in Boots" pantomime, reports a tremendous success with "They'll Never Know Me in Old Dahomey." Miss Jillson was one of the early singers of this number, and realised that she could not find a better one.

Bernard Knowles, who is playing the Emperor at the Theatre Royal, Huddersfield, writes to say that he is doing excellently with "Give Me the Open Road," a number which lends itself extremely well to this type of part. This song is also a big success with Mr. Arthur Jeffries, who is playing a leading part in Lew Lake's "Dardanella," which is this week at the Empire Theatre, Croydon. It is also a big number with Mr. Henri Luscomb in George Shirley's production of "Dick Whittington" at the Kennington Theatre.

One of the outstanding successes in Harry Burns's production of the "Forty Thieves" at the Surrey Theatre is an excellent rendering of "Wyoming Lullaby" as a duet by the principal boy and girl, Raie and Rosie Walters.

Arthur Rawson, who is with Arthur Sleep's pantomime, writing from West Hartlepool, gives a splendid list of the firm's numbers being worked in the show. Miss Gertie Duffield scores with "God Gave Me Wonderful Dreams" and "Will You Love the Violets When You've Lost the Rose?" Miss Cecilia Haynes with "Wyoming Lullaby" and "Ev'ry Time He Kissed Her"; "City of Laughter, City of Tears," "I Left My Heart In Maryland" and "The Women Are Wiser Than Me" are all sung by Mr. Rawson and Mr. Frank Paull. Mr. Rawson mentions that "City of Laughter, City of Tears" and "I Left My Heart In Maryland" are specially popular.

Francis and Day's.

From all quarters reports continue to come to hand concerning the unparalleled success of "Swanee," both in and out of pantomime. Fred Barnes, at the Coliseum, Glasgow, is encored five or six times nightly for his rendering of it, and among the artists who are highly praised both by Press and public for their singing of the song of the season are Mona Vivian and Victoria Carmen at Birmingham, Daisy Wood and Leslie Barker at Leeds, Nora Delany at Bradford, Nellie Wigley at Sheffield, Violet Trevenyon at Woolwich, Dorothy Ward at Manchester, Elsie Bower at Middlesbrough, Eunice Maude at Falmouth, Dainty Lilian at Darlington, Gaye Gordon at Ashton-under-Lyne, Dorothy Meade at Cambridge, May Merry at Hanley, and Jenny Robbins at Eastbourne.

At the King's Theatre, Dundee, so big has been the receptions accorded "Swanee" in the hands of Constance Wentworth, Helen Alston, and Frederic Lake they have been compelled to repeat it at each performance before the curtain.

Jean Andrews, at Weymouth, is continuing this week the success achieved by her at Shepherds Bush with "Write Me a Letter From Your Garden." Fred Morris, at the Palace, Blackpool, has likewise been scoring with this fine ballad of Edward Lockton and John Openshaw.

"Lonesome" proved a song greatly to the taste of Holborn Empire visitors last week, Doris Ashton's rendering being delightful.

Ethel Castaldini is at Southampton making one of the biggest hits of her career with "Daddy, You've Been a Mother To Me."

Harry Talbot, of Talbot and Clare, has on tour—and notably at the Northampton Opera House—been singing "Too Many Girls" with gratifying results.

Ray Varle, the popular ballad vocalist, is heard to much advantage in "Love Sends a Little Gift of Roses" in Leo Leon's "Aladdin" on tour.

Little Kitty Prince, who made so big a hit with "Rose of Virginia" at the Hippodrome, Southend, on the 27th ult., being recalled no fewer than five times, was coached in the number by Elsie Prince.

Peggy O'Dare is scoring with "Voilà! Oh, La La!" in "Hullo, America!" on tour.

"Spangles."

Harry Day's new super-revue, "Spangles," which had such a successful inauguration at Bristol during Christmas week, won extraordinary popularity at the Palace Theatre, Plymouth, this past week. The bookings were phenomenal, and "house full" within a short time of opening was the experience at every performance. The general verdict is that it was the best revue ever seen in Plymouth. Its spectacular features are very fine, the music is of the catchiest description, and George Clarke as the principal comedian is immense. He had a great reception at each show. Miss Isabella Dillon was equally popular for the thoroughness with which she supported him.

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THE LONDON MUSIC HALLS.

THE COLISEUM.

The programme note by no means overstates the case in calling Winston's "Wonderful Water Lions and Diving Nymphs" "the acquatic marvel of the 20th century." Probably nothing quite the equal of their performance has ever been seen before, on the halls or anywhere else. They come straight from the States, and this is their first appearance in London. There are two diving ladies, Miss Clair Ferry and Miss Ruth Wood, both holders of championship medals, besides the five sea-lions and that most important person their trainer, Mr. H. W. Winston, in the company, and the property tank used is said to be the largest in existence. It weighs 25 tons, and holds 6,000 gallons of water. The sea-lions exactly copy the girls' dives and tricks in every particular. High dives, back dives, wheels in the water are all play to them. They love to perform. They get a lot of enjoyment, particularly out of burlesqueing a human being's over-hand stroke swimming.

There is a good idea, well carried out, in the musical fantasy, "Dream Stars," which has been arranged by Laddie Cliff and is presented by J. B. Taylor. "The Man" (Mr. Henry Weste) dreams in the dusk of the stars of musical comedy of years gone by, and one by one they rise out of the decorative grand piano—white and gold—that fills the centre of the stage. Veronique (Miss Kathleen Brett) first; then The Geisha (Miss Nellie Victor), then Floradora (Miss Phœbe Field). Each one joins The Man in a duet recalling in its phrases the song chiefly associated with her name and fame before she vanishes, floating by behind a transparent back curtain. Presently, in the place of the musical-comedy heroines arrives The Spirit of Jazz (Miss Nellie Victor), who—or which—performs a complicated dance involving all the steps ever invented or that might be invented, in the jazz line. The curtain falls, to much applause, on "Love's Old Sweet Song," with harmonised refrain sung by all the company, to go up again immediately for a much-revised version of the "Faust" trio—in which probably, The Spirit of Jazz is meant to represent Mephistopheles.

Mr. Frederic Bentley returns once more in "All Tied Up," which goes mirthfully. In fact, in Mr. Bentley's part of Montague Vallant, which is almost the whole of the farce, there are as many laughs as there are lines. His capital company includes Miss Mabel Lambeth as Winnie, Miss Florence Harvey as Elsie, Mr. William Midgley as Wilks, Mr. Dennis Trent as Alan, and Mr. George Goodwin as the Uncle.

Miss Cecilia Loftus comes with her clever impersonations. The latest is Miss Marie Lloyd in "Dilly-Dally." It is much enjoyed. The Two Bobs are back again, still singing "Philadelphia," still being asked for such old favourites as "The 4.15." And they give them out with as much freshness and vim as though they had never done them before.

Mr. Frank Whitman, the "dance-mad fiddler," popular as ever, Cornalla and Eddie, in their hilarious "Toss 'Em and Miss 'Em" sketch, and Page's Animated Dolls, in a topical revue, are all new to this week's bill. The only turn that remains over is Mme. Karsavina's "Nursery Rhymes."

HOLBORN EMPIRE.

The current programme at the Holborn Empire is of the usual excellence. The bill is opened in bright style by the Michel Brothers, who provide some neat equilibristic work. Then follows Miss Jessie Allan, who, deputising for Miss Emilie Hayes, enchants all with her sweet singing. The very appearance of Mr. Jack Lane is rib-tickling. Imagine it, the most bucolic of rustics, seated at a sedate grand piano. In addition, Mr. Lane has a vast store of anecdotes and ditties, all delightfully humorous and novel, and he comes in for a well-deserved call in front of the "tabs."

That piquante artist, Miss Hilda Glyder, in three bewitching frocks, sings a similar number of songs in her own engaging way. Then those great favourites, Jack and Evelyn, brimming over with spirits and burlesquing almost everything under the sun during their 20 minutes' tenure of the stage. It is a pleasure also to renew acquaintance with the Borellis, who return from their successful tour abroad to win great laurels on the English stage. As of old, their cat duet brings down the house. The turn which follows belongs to the new generation—to wit, Mayne and Sheridan, whose rapid rise to the front rank of turns has been nothing short of phenomenal. The reason is not difficult to find. Their work, instinct with youthful vigour, contains some of the neatest patter, brightest singing, and slickest dancing that can be seen on the halls—in short, one of the big hits of the evening.

Mr. Whit Cunliffe, the most topical of lights, comes in, of course, for a huge reception. His new opening number, "Riding on a Charabanc," affords ample opportunities for some good character work, and the audience were quick to realise Mr. Cunliffe's versatility. Mr. Joe Elvin is also here with his successful farce, "The Holy Friar," and the programme is completed by the Meteor Trio, who contribute some clever and humorous trapeze work.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.

A high-class musical act is always sure of a warm and appreciative welcome here, and the delightful harmony provided by Mr. W. H. Squire, Miss Lily Fairney, and Miss Auriol Jones had the heartiest of receptions on Monday evening, a spontaneous recall rewarding the efforts of the gifted trio. Val Vett, who presents a novel picture turn, in which he provides scenic studies out of such unpromising materials as pieces of rag and cloth picked seemingly haphazard from a heap of rubbish, received and deserved the cordial response awarded.

Mr. Leslie Strange, in burlesque character studies, gave a strikingly life-like portrait of Mr. Lloyd George, one wondering whether the cheers accorded were a tribute to the performer or his famous "study," this clever effort being supplemented by a realistic and admirably made-up study of senility which brought down the house. Torino, with clever juggling, in an elaborate and pretty Chinese stage setting, proved himself a worthy pupil of the great Cinquevalli; and the Megan Brothers, in quips, cranks, and facial acrobatics, with eccentric dancing of the highest order thrown in, received an ovation at the end of their show. Delino, the New Zealand wire walker, is the acme of grace and agility, whose act was very well received.

Dollie and Billie, a couple of talented youngsters, gave an interesting scena, which included song, character-studies, and ballad-singing, one of the most interesting items being the prettily sung "Old-fashioned Waltz," in which the young artists danced to the lilting rhythm of the melody; and the D'Ormondes, in "Scientific Nonsense," gave as droll and clever a show on wheels as we ever remember seeing. Mr. Forbes Russell directs the competent orchestra, and Mr. David James, ably seconded by Mr. Baker, is the able manager.

CHISWICK EMPIRE.

A first-class bill is presented this week by Mr. J. Persich, and good audiences are the result. Place aux dames: here is Miss Ina Hill, a great singer with a beautiful voice, her interpretation of "Awake, Beloved," proves a vocal triumph, and she won a very hearty reception. There is also here, by way of contrast, the irrepressible Billy Leonard, the "broth of a boy," who chortles and sings of Mabel and other divinities. A burlesque "Farewell" song, as rendered by a Son of Neptune, proves irresistibly droll, and causes much hilarity.

Mr. John Clifton presents his screaming mirth-provoker, "On No Man's Land," which is splendidly interpreted by the Ceylons; honours go to Syd Ash as Pte. Slopdosh, and Sam Boganny as Lieut. Dandyfoot; Ernest Krake causes endless fun in his amusing skit, "The Electric Tram Conductor"; the "fares" afford Ernest fine scope for his comical powers, and the house rocked with laughter at his clever antics. A capital comedian is Chas. Rich, and his song "Don't Spoil the Ship, &c.," proved immensely popular, while his "Dictionary" ditty is equally successful.

"In Happy Moments" Charles Berkley and Nellie Turner are provided with a vehicle for conveying their undoubted ability across the footlights; they sing, dance, and cross-patter to the manifest joy of the audience.

Originality is the key-note to Ted Stafford's "show." He paints land and seascapes with wonderful fidelity and skill; his rapidity of execution is not the least feature of his powers. Aptly describing their "turn" as "A Whirl of Comedy," Mr. J. Edward Pierce and Miss Marie Roslyn rapidly make an impression; an Indian duet is a distinct novelty, but their performance is all good, and their instrumental duet, "The Rosary," literally evoked thunders of applause. The bioscope and Mr. George Saker's always delightful orchestra complete a fine programme.

HACKNEY EMPIRE.

The programme at the Hackney Empire is of the usual excellence and variety. Southwood and Pink Lady are responsible for a bright, exhilarating turn, notable for mirth and melody. They give a comparison of wooing in the courtly days of old and the modern fashion. Songs of the present day are compared with those of 50 years ago, and both are thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. Adam Tomlinson tells us how he contrives to have a soft job in the building trade, and his tales of his pal Jim's experiences are quite unique. He puts in a bit of local colour in a Hackney rhyming tongue-twister on the subject of "Nightlights," and to help the audience out with the chorus he throws it on a screen. His turn was highly appreciated. Ching Wu, the Chinese magician, is here, and as a dealer in magic and spells he provides a most mystifying and elaborate entertainment. The transformations which he effects must be seen to be believed. The silk-worm, the rabbit, and the watch and the four gold rings are among his brilliant deceptions. The broken plate shooting act is quite a novelty, and an exciting one into the bargain; and the final transformation scene is simply marvellous.

Bichette, assisted by Billy Judge, in "Finny Funniosities," makes a great success. Bichette is a most intelligent sealioness, and the tricks she does are really marvellous, including a jazz band performance. The Miles-Stavordale Quintette are always welcome in their songs without singers; in other words, voices on strings. Frank Elliston and company, in their farce, "Dear Old Bean," by Fennimore Glyn, with its comical complications, are very popular; the farce is admirably played. The Jovers, in eccentric and musical acrobatic comedy, keep the ball of fun rolling throughout their turn, and are a clever combination; and Chris Richards contributes an original eccentric acrobatic dance turn in which hats also play a part.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

Prince Tokio opens the bill here this week in a smart dancing, equilibristic and foot-juggling act. Herbert Lee follows with two songs, his second, "Over Home," giving him scope for some clever character drawing. Tom Edwards, the huntsman ventriloquist, keeps the audience in merry mood with his brilliant impromptus. He has the assistance of Jack Edwards during part of his act, and concludes with an impression of Mr. Albert Chevalier in "A Fallen Star," a very clever piece of technique and mimicry.

Miss Gertie Gitana has a hearty reception, and sings in her own inimitable way "When the Birds Forget to Sing," "My Pretty Moonbeam," "An Hawaiian Lullaby," "The New Moon is the Old Moon," and "Nellie Dean." Merle's Cockateos are one of the cleverest speciality acts on the halls. They do many wonderful things, and conclude with a fire brigade rescue from a burning house. Eric Randolph, the popular tenor, in his original vagabond act, renders beautifully his "Vagabond" number, and "Wonderful Song," and before the tabs "The Sweetest Song." Mr. Randolph had a very gratifying reception. Miss Daisy James is another great favourite, with her three good numbers, "My Old Man is out on the Spree," "Millie was one in a Million," and her "Quakeress" number.

The clever "songs at the piano" chap, Ernest Hastings, scores his usual success with "Pelmanism," a smart descriptive number, "She Never Sat Up Any More," and other songs. Leo Cudd's Six Musical Navvies, in their clever speciality act, close the bill. Their playing of "The Wyoming Lullaby" and "Asleep in the Deep" was particularly fine. A concerted medley with which they close brought down the house.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE.

At the head of the funmakers here we have Harry Tate, who is "Selling a Motor Car," to the great delight of the audience. Eddy Gray is a very novel and expert juggler with Indian clubs and hoops. Gus Harris is a popular comedian, and looks very smart in a Scotch military costume in which he sings "The Only Jewish Scotchman in the Irish Fusiliers," following with "I'm Solly, Alway Jolly, I'm Solly of Petticoat Lane." The O'Gorman Bros. do very well with "Harry, Harry, Think of Little Carrie," "Back to the Farm," and an excellent dance. Athas and Collins are also very popular. Miss Collins has a good voice, and Mr. Collins does some clever sand and other dancing.

Popular Sam Mayo sang "I Do Like My Breakfast in Bed" and the "Rag-Time Drummer," concluding with "This is the Wife for Me," a novel and funny song, in which he is assisted by a dressmaker's dummy. Maggie Benson deputised for Miss Violet Essex, and proved a delightful vocalist in "My Blue-Eyed Irish Boy," being heartily recalled. The Sisters Elsie and Louise De Winne are two charming young ladies. Starting with a Sabot dance, they follow with a sailors' hornpipe, and their acrobatic speciality is excellent in every way.

THE SWEDISH BALLET.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Dear Sir,—May I ask you to permit me to express my thanks to the Press for the attention which they have devoted to my productions during my stay in London?

I am grateful not only to those who have been good enough to praise the work of my artists, but to those who have criticised it adversely, because behind it all I feel that critics acknowledged the sincerity of our efforts.

I have also been deeply touched by the welcome and praise accorded us by our English brother and sister artists. My people and I will always treasure the memory of our appearance at the Palace Theatre, and look forward to the possibility of again presenting our work before the English public.

In conclusion, now that my season is almost over, may I disclaim any intention or desire of imitating the work of other ballets?

It has been suggested that we should be compared with others, but surely if one thinks of "El Greco," "Maison de Fous," and our other productions, this was undeserved.—I beg to remain, yours faithfully,

R. DE MARE.

Director-General of the Swedish Ballets.
The Palace Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W. 1.
Jan. 8, 1921.

La Petite Ziska.

La Petite Ziska, who made her first appearance as a single turn at the Chiswick Empire, was immediately booked by the syndicate to open at Brixton on Jan. 31. Her sole agents are the I.V.T.A.

On Friday afternoon a United Services Club matinée was given by the "Cinderella" company at the Cheltenham Theatre in aid of the funds of the Services Club, assisted by local amateurs.

VARIETY ARTISTES' FEDERATION.

SCOTTISH BRANCH.

A well-attended meeting of the Scottish Branch of the Variety Artistes' Federation was held in the Central Halls, Bath-street, Glasgow, on Sunday evening, when a number of interesting topics were under consideration. The chair was occupied by the Scottish V.A.F. organiser, Mr. George Westland, who recalled that exactly twelve month ago they, as Scottish artists, had met together in the same hall at what proved to be the last meeting of the then existing Scottish Federated Artistes' Protective Association. As they all were aware, this Association automatically went out of existence on the starting of the Scottish Branch of the V.A.F., and he thought it could fairly be claimed that a great deal of good work had been done in the interim. A deal of misunderstanding and misconception had been cleared away, and he felt sure that they were now marching forward to still greater benefits for Scottish artists under the banner of the big Federation. They would also recall that three weeks after the holding of the meeting alluded to a mass meeting of music hall performers was addressed at Glasgow by Mr. Albert Voyce and by Mr. Monty Bailey, and, strangely enough, these two V.A.F. enthusiasts were coming to Glasgow within three weeks' time again in order to be present at the annual meeting of the Scottish Branch.

At a later stage of the proceedings nominations were taken for the Scottish Advisory Committee, and it was reported that this Committee now officially consisted of ten members, and that (if a great number of candidates were proposed for office) a vote by ballot would be taken at the forthcoming annual meeting on Sunday, Feb. 6, in the same hall. The chairman, alluding to the activities of the members of the Advisory Committee which was now automatically passing out of office, said that he had nothing but the highest praise for all the members thereof. A suggestion had been made that in electing a Scottish committee in future a method should be followed of electing the three members with the most votes for three years, the following three members in the voting for two years, and the four remaining successful candidates for one year in office. This would do away with the election of a full committee every year, and during the next year an opportunity would be given to members to formally discuss this matter.

On nominations for the Scottish Committee being invited, the following names were suggested:—John H. Flockhart, Hector Donald, Gordon Inglis, Jimmy Cairns, Davie McLeod, Jack Gardner, Captain Jack Ellis, James W. Bowie, James T. Stoddart, Joe Anderson, Jimmy Houston, Jack Devlin, Dave Summerhill, Dave Walker, Austen Kerr, Marcus Boyle, Jack Fuller, and Johnny Grant; together with two ladies, namely, Miss Elsie Norman and Miss Emma Lloydal. This therefore means that there will be a contested election at the forthcoming annual meeting of the Scottish Branch on the first Sunday in February, and ballot papers will be handed out on the night in question only to fully-paid-up members. It was explained by the chairman that the V.A.F. Council in London had offered a hearty invitation to any of their meetings to any member of the Scottish Committee who happened to be in London. "This," commented Mr. Westland, "is certainly a very kindly and gracious act, and I feel sure that if any of our Committee during the coming year are working London they will not fail to avail themselves of this opportunity. (Applause.) Of course, it will be understood that such members will not be allowed to participate in any vote, but they will have the opportunity of joining in any of the discussions." (Applause.)

The remainder of the evening was spent in a general discussion of professional problems and grievances—including a round-table conference on the signing of contracts.

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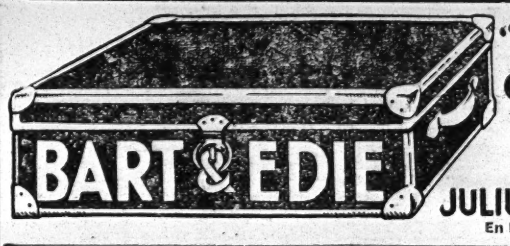

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THE CORPL. THOMAS FUND.

"THE ERA" APPEAL.

A contribution to the above from an unexpected but no less acceptable source has to be recorded this week. It is from a girls' college at Liverpool, and is the result of an appeal by Miss Annetta S. Schultz to her schoolfellows.

Miss Schultz writes:—

"Curve Acre, Huyton,
"Jan. 3, 1921.

"Dear Mrs. Gilroy,—Enclosed I am sending £1 5s. 6d. which I have collected amongst my friends at home and at school for the fund that Mr. Gilday started for his old partner who was disabled in the 'Great War.'

"All my friends took a great interest in the fund, as he was a Liverpool man, and in the great sacrifice he has made. I hope this small amount that I have been able to collect will help the fund along."

The Corporal Thomas Fund, which the late Myron Gilday started, and which his widow is continuing with the co-operation of "The Era," in memory of her husband, has aroused the sympathy of all classes of the community.

Corporal Thomas, better known professionally as Tom Fox, was a former partner of the late Mr. Gilday, who devoted a good deal of energy, during the days of his last illness, to collecting for his benefit. Mr. Thomas joined up in the early months of the war, and suffered severely, losing the left leg and an arm, and having the right leg paralysed. He is, of course, totally disabled, and is in receipt of a pension of £3 a week. Out of this he has to maintain a wife and child, and provide himself with expensive nourishment, at his own cost.

Subscription List.

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St. Edmund's Girls' College, Liverpool	0	13	0
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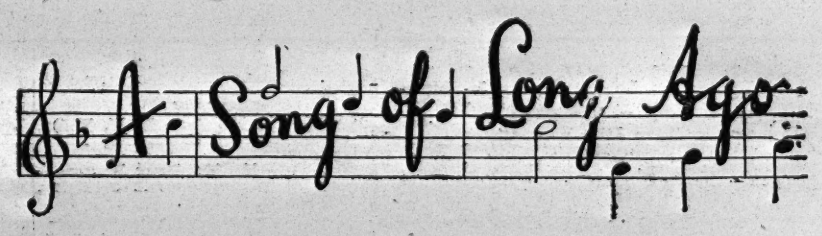
Donations should be sent either to Mrs. Gilday, 18, Cosway-mansions, N.W. 1, or to the Editor of "The Era," 35, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C. 1, by whom they will be acknowledged weekly.



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[DORIS ASHTON, HOLBORN EMPIRE

FROM THE PROVINCES.

NOTES AND NEWS OF TOURING PLAYS.

ABERDEEN.

H.M. THEATRE.—P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co.; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Fred Collins presents all-Scotch pantomime, "Cinderella," for run of three weeks.

TIVOLI.—P., Tivoli, Aberdeen, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. W. Lothian Gilbert.—The Lawrence Wright Ensemble; Bert Weston, comedian; Lio Hoi Tsein Troupe; Alexandre, bird mimic; Will Lacey, comedian; Betancourt, chair balancer; and pictures.

PALACE.—P., Tivoli, Aberdeen, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. A. Lamont.—Carlton, conjurer; Quilbeco, violinist; Fred and May, comedians; Fred Land, the lively fellow; McCann's Dogs; Four Charltons, gymnasts; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 141, Union-street.

ACCRINGTON.

NEW HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Donald O. Clark; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Jackson.—The turns include L'Incognita and John Amadio, the eminent soprano and wizard of the flute; Allan Hanbury, character comedian; The Elgins, in smart speciality act; T. E. Clifford, entertainer; the Pasquali Bros., in astonishing acrobatic feats; Ben Said, Eastern magician; and the Two Violets, in a dancing speciality.

Boors, The Chemists, 89-91, Blackburn-road.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P. & M., Mr. Chas. Revill; A. M., Mr. Chas. Revill, junr.; B. M., Mr. Jno. Revill.—The musical comedy, "Toto," by Gladys Unger, is being produced here for the week by Mr. Alexander Humphrey's company.

EMPIRE HIPPODROME.—Ps., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead & Son; G. M., Mr. H. Winstanley; A. M., Mr. Jno. Boyle.—Messrs. Jazon and Montgomery's touring pantomime company is here with "Babes in the Wood."

Boors, The Chemists, 140, Old-sq.

ATTERCLIFFE.

PALACE.—L., Messrs. Walker and Bennett; B. M., Mr. Arthur R. Walker; A. M., Mr. Edwin F. Gaunt; Mus. D., Mr. W. Davison.—An attractive bill is contributed to by Rich Taylor, whistling ventriloquist; Tiddy, Wid, and Wal, in comedy scena; Billy French, singing and dancing act; The Two Acathans, comedy tumbling act; Iris and Phyllis, in pot-pourri of melody and song; and Dumorski, the "Apache" lady violiniste.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYALTY.—L., Mr. Hugh Robertson; M., Mr. T. W. Armstrong.—Joe Fawcett presents "The Moon Maiden," featuring Evelyn Major and Stan Addison.

TIVOLI.—L., Signor Pepi; M., Mr. J. G. Johnson.—The Boon Boys and Doris, Tom Welby, D'Lowra, Ben Said, Millie Gold, Jack Oswald, and Jas. Dermott and Vera Dennis.

BARRY DOCK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Tours, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Arthur Carlton; M., Mr. H. Watson.—The Oscar Asche and Lily Brayton production of the musical comedy, "Chu Chin Chow."

VINT'S PALACE.—P., Mr. Leon Vint; M., Mr. H. E. Gilby.—The Altons, "Sylvia," introducing musical glasses; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 85b, Holton-road.

BATLEY.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—G. M., Mr. Perci Leonard; Mus. D., Mr. A. E. Hirst.—Mr. Frank Holland presents "Roullette."

BILSTON.

ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; R. M., Mr. Fred Rothery-Ellis.—Miss Gladys Banford is presenting her pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," with Miss Fanny Needham as Jack, Miss Vesta Lyons as the Princess, and Mr. Jack Craig as the Dame; specialities are introduced by Miss Fanny Needham; Sisters Doreen; Saphkini, the skatorial marvel; Lyons and O'Moore, Bert Morris, Ellon and Ellis, Jack Craig, The Five Dainty Tit Bits.

BLACKPOOL.

OPERA HOUSE.—R. M., Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone; A. M., Mr. W. T. Russell; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Greenhalgh. — Mr. J. A. E. Malone's company is appearing here in "Peter Pan," with Irene Arnold (Peter), Marguerite Moreton (Wendy), Lionel Gadsden (Hook), James Wilton (Smee), Jack Tregala (Mr. Darling), Doris Ormond (Mrs. Darling), &c., &c.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. George Harrop; A. M., Mr. Fred Waller; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Jepson.—Bruce Drysdale and J. W. Cunningham appear in the sketch, "Misery and Co."; Will Hay is presenting the burlesque, "Find the Beetle"; Two Selbinis, Syd May, Arthur Derry and Gert Sloan, James Stewart, Allen Hanbury, &c., are also on the bill.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Bolton Theatres and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. John Moncur.—Messrs. Macdonald & Young present "Irene."

HIPPODROME.—P., Bolton Theatres and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Frank Shelley.—J. E. Bleriot presents "Buzz Along."

GRAND.—P., Bolton Theatres and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; A.M., Mr. Alf Booth.—Mr. Walter Bishop presents "Dick Whittington."

Boors, The Chemists, 29-31, Knowsley-st.; 139, Derby-st.

BRIDLINGTON.

SPA THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—M. for the Corporation, Mr. Charles Palmer; Asst. M., Mrs. F. Prosser.—Messrs. Allen & Edwards' pantomime "Dick Whittington."

BRIGHTON.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Chas. Gulliver; G. M. & L., Mr. W. H. Boardman; A. M., Mr. A. Coote Suggit; Mus. D., Mr. E. Oram.—Bransby Williams, Kirkby and Hudson, Roxy La Rocca, Rebda with his golden instruments, James Teddy, Bay Russell and Sophie Forest and Lauri de Vine.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M., Mr. Lawson Lambert; Mus. D., Mr. Sommerlad.—Third week of "Chu Chin Chow."

GRAND.—P., Mrs. Kimberley; G. M., Mr. Frank Liston; A. M., Mr. Jack Thomas; Mus. M., Mr. T. Parsons.—Pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood."

PALACE PIER THEATRE.—G. M., Mr. J. W. Cordiner; Mgs. D., Mr. W. Pickard.—Pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."

WEST PIER THEATRE.—M., Mr. A. W. Scholey; Mus. D., Mr. H. Crapps.—Production of new comedy by Lechmore Worrall, "The Piccadilly Puritan," prior to presentation in London.

Boors, The Chemists, 64, Church-road, Hove; 204, Church-road, Hove; 88, Preston-road; 17 and 18, James's-street; 19, London-road; 158-162, Western-road.

BURNLEY.

VICTORIA.—P., Victoria Opera House, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—J. H. Shaw and Co. present "The Quaker Girl."

EMPIRE.—P., Victoria Opera House, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. C. Horner.—Harry Slingsby's musical burlesque, "Oh! Laugh!"

PALACE.—P., Burnley Palace and Hippodrome, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Allan Williams.—Arthur Rigby presents "Babes in the Wood." Cast includes Jack Marks and Elsie Sims.

Boors, The Chemists, 90, St. James-street.

BURSLEM.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. P. Collins; M., Mr. J. Johnson.—Mr. A. E. Smith presents the pantomime. "Jack the Giant Killer,' twice nightly. Cast includes Miss Kitty Douglas.

Boors, The Chemists, 28-30, Queen-street.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Exors. of H. G. Dudley Bennett (decd.); Licensee & Business Executrix, Mrs. H. G. Dudley Bennett. R. M., Mr. J. Fred. Watson.—The Reliable Enterprises, Ltd., present the pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood," introducing Miss Renee Wright's troupe of Klever Kiddies.

Boors, The Chemists, 161, High-st.; 1, Lichfield-st.; 154, Station-st.; 29, Borough-rd.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Sec. & G. M., Mr. F. A. Hastings; Mus. D., Mr. G. F. Burgiss.—Josh Clifton's pantomime company, "Dick Whittington and His Cat."

THE CINEMA HOUSE.—L. & M., Mr. Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. Jas. Pilkington; Mus. D., Mr. Reg. Goddard.—Edgar Curtis, the Lilliputian entertainer, in vaudeville; pictures, &c.

THE PICTURE HOUSE.—P., Mr. Allan Milton; Mus. D., Miss E. L. Mainwood. G.S.M.—Afternoons, 2.15 to 5; evenings, 5.30 to 10.30.

Boors, The Chemists, 46-50, Spring-gar-

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.; R. M., Mr. P. H. Adams; Mus. D., Mr. T. Gilbey Briggs.—Commencing Monday, for two weeks, the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company in Gilbert-Sullivan operas.

Boors, The Chemists, 1, Petty Cury; 6, Market-hill; 86, Mill-road.

CARDIFF.

NEW THEATRE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. Robert Redford; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Angle.—"Goody Two Shoes" continues to pack this theatre. Miss Bertha Wensley Russell and Miss Haidee de Rance as principal boy and girl respectively are adding to their reputations, while Mr. John Hagan and Mr. J. M. Campbell are highly successful in the comedy element.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. C. T. Hutchison; Mus. D., Mr. D. Griffiths.—Gene Gerrard, "The Bibulous One"; Fred Duprez, "Mr. Manhattan"; Fred Kitchen presents The Beswick Twins; Madam Jeanne presents the wonderful novelty demonstration, "The Current of Fun"; Jack Merritt, the Bouncing Marvel; Alan Shaw, the famous money-maker; Iizuka and Partner, in a clever balancing act.

Boors, The Chemists, 36, Queen-street; 31, Albany-road.

CASTLEFORD.

QUEEN'S.—P., Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Will H. Emerson.—Thos. F. Convery's musical comedy revue, "Cheerful Days."

Boors, The Chemists, 79a, Carlton-street.

CHELTENHAM.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—L., Mr. Robert Redford; G. M., Mr. H. Oswald Redford; Mus. D., Mr. H. Teague.—For the last week a second edition of the pantomime "Cinderella" is presented, with new features and all the successes retained, a truly rollicking show.

COLISEUM.—P., Mr. H. J. Beard; R. M., Mr. A. H. Greenland; Mus. D., Mr. J. H. Shackleton.—The Repartee Girls, Moore and Roby, head the bill; Hector and Lolletta; Trevor and Ware; Syd Sydney; Daisy Mignon; Molly McCarthy; and Takaso.

TOWN HALL.—The Sunday evening concert drew a packed house of Sullivan lovers, the gems of of the composer's works being charmingly presented by an orchestra under Mr. J. H. Whittaker's baton. Miss Bessie Hargreaves sang the valse song from "Tom Jones" and "One Fine Day" ("Madam Butterfly").

Boors, The Chemists, 129-130, High-street.

CHESTERFIELD.

HIPPODROME.—P., Hippodromes, Ltd. (Chesterfield); G. M., Mr. F. J. Welchman.—Mr. P. Leonard presents "Aladdin."

Boors, The Chemists, 21, Market-place.

CIRENCESTER.

BINGHAM THEATRE.—M., Mr. Ben Rudduck.—Edwards and Campbell present The Brisques Vaudeville Party.

COATBRIDGE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Coatbridge Entertainers, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. W. Sowerby; Mus. D., Miss Frances Heath.—Scotch Kelly, comedian; La-Fayne, musical act; Rene Rice, comedienne and dancer; Flockart and Saunders, vocal act; W. B. Raby, comedian; Palette and Dog, in magic and melody; Leslie Lynn and company, Scotch comedy sketch.

EMPIRE.—P., Coatbridge Picture House, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Harry Lucas; Mus. D., Mr. H. McVey.—De Luxe, with his pigeons and dogs; Marie Austin, refined entertainer; Tom E. Varley, musical act; and pictures.

DARWEN.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. John Holgate; M., Mr. J. L. Connor; Mus. D., Mr. W. G. Chapman.—James Kiddie presents the fairy pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood." The company includes Bert Groves, Miss Nancy Groves, and Miss Zena Bell.

Boors, The Chemists, 10-11, Market-st.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith; Mus. D., Mr. J. Field.—Messrs. Macdonald & Young present the musical comedy, "The Lilac Domino."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. & G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Geo. E. Smith; R. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—Mr. Gilbert Payne presents the pantomime, "Dick Whittington." Cast includes Gilbert Payne as Idle Jack, and Kitty Storrow as Dick, the Bros. Morris, Sydney Dean, Miss Yvonne Aptila, Eight Brewester Girls, and the Six Rosebuds.

Boors, The Chemists, 38, Market-place.

DONCASTER.

GRAND.—L., Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. A. E. Dobney.—Mrs. Fred Osmond's Co., in "Should a Husband Forgive?"

Boors, The Chemists, 70-71, Frenchgate.

DOVER.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. S. W. Winter; R. M., Mr. C. Taylor Lawson; M. C., Mr. W. Medhurst.—Harry Levaine and George Lawrence present the musical comedy, "Oh! Betsy!"

Boors, The Chemists, 11, Cannon-st.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—L. & M., Messrs. Murray King & Clark; M., Mr. Douglas Gordon; A. M., Mr. George L. Godwin; Mus. D., Mr. F. Seymour.—Mr. Fred Lloyd's company in "Rose of Araby."

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. H. Raymond; Mus. D., Mr. W. H. Ash. — The Six Brothers Luck and company in "What Next?"

DEVONSHIRE PARK.—M. & Sec., Mr. E. A. Brown.—Daily concerts by the orchestra, under the direction of Captain H. G. Amers. Vocalist, Miss Ada Mylchreest, mezzo-soprano.

In the PAVILION, pictures and Pavilion entertainers.

Boors, The Chemists, 14-16, Sussex-gardens; 6, Seaside.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS.—P., Folkestone Pleasure Gardens Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—Messrs. Murray King and Clark present "Dick Whittington."

Boors, The Chemists, 12, Rendezvous-st.; 61, High-st.

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE.—P., Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. John R. Poole; G. M., Mr. Ernest C. Rogers; A. M., Mr. L. E. Poole.—Messrs. Macdonald and Young present "Paddy the Next Best Thing."

Boors, The Chemists, 139, Westgate-st.; 94-95, Northgate-st.

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—P. & M., Messrs. A. B. and J. Wright; Mus. D., Mr. James Murchie.—Mr. T. C. Wray presents the musical comedy, "Kissing Time," for the first time locally, with Mr. Leo Franklyn in the leading rôle.

Boors, The Chemists, 24, Hamilton-street.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE.—M. D., Councillor J. H. Curry; A. M., Mr. S. S. Hawden; Mus. D., Mr. J. Bingley.—Mr. Harry Russell and company are appearing in "Cinderella." The cast includes Madge Allen, chorus vocalist; Billy Walton, raconteur; Sisters Stebbings, dancers; Corrie and Foote; Louie Letting, toe dancer; and Harry Russell, comedian.

PALACE THEATRE. — M., Councillor F. V. Walford.; A. M., Mr. H. S. Surfleet; Mus. D., Mr. Tom Stevens.—Mr. E. Gittins' pocket opera company are appearing in condensed versions of "Maritana" and following turns also appear:—Billy Bennett, comedian; Benson Grey, ventriloquist; Dudley Dale, in stunts; Hunter and Bob, pantomimists; Degughi Troupe, Japanese acrobats.

Boors, The Chemists, 108, Cleethorpes-road.

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Wm. Robinson; Mus. D., Mr. Edwin James.—Messrs. Jason and Montgomery's pantomime, "Cinderella," is proving a big attraction.

GRAND.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. J. Hinton; Mus. D., Mr. L. Crabtree.—The well-known musical comedy, "High Jinks," is providing an excellent entertainment.

PALACE.—P., The Palace Theatre (Halifax), Ltd.; M., Mr. H. Jackson; Mus. D., Mr. W. Davidson.—A good all-round bill includes Will Bland, Bert Hughes and company, Elsie Gregory, Archie Hill, Frank H. Fox, and Tom Taylor.

Boors, The Chemists, 1, Corn Market.

HANLEY.

ROYAL.—M. D., Mr. Alan Young; M., Mr. Albert Bulmer.—"Red Riding Hood" is proving a great success. Sandy Powell, the chief comedian, is everybody's favourite.

GRAND.—M. D., Mr. Alan Young; M., Mr. Albert Bulmer.—"Dick Whittington" (Nevill Graham's company) commenced on Monday a fortnight's run here. Company includes the Weston Male Quartette, Lily Bell's 8 Lady Dancers, Margery Daw, Elsie Piddock, Winifred Griffiths, Maxwell Carew, Wilfred Lowe, Al Maurice, Colin Coop.

Boors, The Chemists, 24-26, Piccadilly.

HASTINGS.

GAIETY.—M., Mr. H. W. Rowland; R. M., Mr. C. E. Scutt; M. D., Mr. Thos. Hilton.—Frederick Harrison's company are paying a first visit here in Sir James Barrie's play, "Mary Rose."

PALACE PIER.—M. D., Mr. J. H. Gardner; B. M., Mr. Percy Brown.—Norfolk Megone and his orchestra continue their concerts twice daily, submitting some good programmes. Miss Maricrie Booth, a fine contralto, is paying a welcome return visit.

ROYAL CONCERT HALL.—P., The Elite Picture Theatres (Hastings and Bristol, Ltd.); R. M., Mr. M. Williamson Broad.—The Hastings Corporation present Julian Clifford and his orchestra daily. On Friday Mr. Frank Mullings, the Wagnerian tenor, will appear at a special matinée.

Boors, The Chemists, 17-19, Robertson-street, George-street.

HEBBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. J. Grantham; M., Mr. G. Grantham; Asst. M., Mr. J. Sherwood. — The Great Merritt, the mystery man; Billy Burns, vocal comedian; and Harry Kirk, versatile comedian.

HITCHIN.

BLAKES' THEATRE.—P., Blake Bros. (Theatres), Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Will Rolston; Mus. D., Mr. L. G. Shrive.—Wood and Zola, in comedy balancing humpstibumpsti act; Wilfred Clowes and his concertina; and pictures.

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Hitchin Playhouse, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. R. A. Brown; Mus. D., Mr. Fred Baker.—F. W. Hawkins presents the pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," with specialities by the Eight Top Girls, the Five Gullivers, &c.

TOWN HALL.—On Monday and Tuesday Mr. J. Bannister Howard presented Percy Hutchison's and Herbert Day's Company in "General Post."

HULL.

PALACE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; M., Mr. W. A. Cooke.—The Wylie-Tate production, "The Follies of 1920."

Boors, The Chemists, 10-12, King Edward-street.

IPSWICH.

HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. R. Hendry; Mus. D., Mr. R. Morbey.—This week:- George Brydon Phillips' Company in pantomime, "Cinderella."

LYCEUM.—P., Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; L., Mr. E. H. Bostock.—Manageress, Miss Edith Parkyn; Mus. D., Mr. H. Lewin Taylor.—Henry Baynton and Company, in "Midsummer Night's Dream."

Boors, The Chemists, 22, Tavern-street; 52, Westgate-street.

JARROW.

EMPIRE.—M., Mr. Tait.—R. W. Willey, the novelty dancing masterpiece, is appearing here.

THE KINO.—M., Mr. Percy Dawsone.—The Barnard Trio are here in a singing, dancing, and musical act.

KEIGHLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. Francis Laidler; M., Mr. J. Austin Walshaw; Mus. D., Mr. W. Lupton.—A. E. Smith presents the first pantomime of the season, "Mother Goose," with Miss Betty Beryl as principal boy, and Miss May Locke principal girl.

Boors, The Chemists, 58, Cavendish-street.

KETTERING.

COLISEUM.—P., Messrs. Thompson Bros.; G. M., Mr. Arthur Thompson; S. M., Mr. Bennett; Mus. D., Mr. Wilf. Sturman.—Messrs. Manor & Logan present the revue, "Whirls and Girls."

Boors, The Chemists, 31-32, Market-place.

LANCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE. — M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; R. M., Mr. George V. Wybrow.—Mr. J. A. E. Malone's company in "Tilly of Bloomsbury."

Boors, The Chemists, 36-38, Penny-street.

LEEK.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—P., Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; L. & G. M., Mr. Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. J. W. Malpass; Mus. D., Miss Agnes Bratt.—"Rose of the West," and other pictures of interest.

SALISBURY PALACE.—P., Mr. Sampson Salt; L. & G. M., Mr. Allan Milton; R. M., Mr. J. W. Malpass.—"The City of Purple Dreams" and other films.

Boors, The Chemists, 17, St. Edward-st., and Sheep Market-st.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—R. M., Mr. W. H. Deacon.—Messrs. R. & W. Ainsley present their cinema revue, "The Movie Maid," featuring Dorothy Godfrey and Billie Blackburn.

Boors, The Chemists, 10, Market-place.

LUTON.

GRAND.—P., Mr. E. Graham Falcon; B. M., Mr. Walter O'Sullivan.—Les Rouges et Noirs present "The Splinters of 1921."

Boors, The Chemists, 27, George-st.

MAIDENHEAD.

HIPPODROME.—P. & M., Mr. Geo. Gude.—Arthur Roseberry presents "The Silent Watch" on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and "Real Sports" on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

NEATH.

PALACE.—P., Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Leon Vint; R. M., Mr. E. Gilby; Mus. D., Mr. D. Lewis.—The Sisters Billington, the famous trick divers and swimmers, in their electric crystal tank; R. E. Livesey, in a smart ventriloquial act, "The Merry Wit." Pictures complete.

GNOLL HALL.—P., The Gnoll Hall Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; Sec., Mr. Glyn Gething; Manageress, Mrs. L. Trueman.—Molly Baldwin and Maise Sterling appear in a production of vocal harmony; Phil Kuaffman in coon songs and dances; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 56, Wind-st.

NEWPORT.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; M., Mr. A. R. Hollands.—Albert Whelan, Hart and O'Brian, Natal Trio, Gwen Thomas, Wyn and Ivy, The Buchanans, Van Dock.

Boors, The Chemists, 13, Commercial-st.

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Mus. D., Mr. Lawrie Owen; S. M., Mr. Sydney Hammond.—Mr. George Campbell's "Dick Whittington Up-to-Date."

Boors, The Chemists, 6, Gold-street.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Stanley Rogers; A. M., Mr. Horace Lee; Mus. D., Mr. Charles Turner.—Messrs. Douglas Millar and F. Clive Ross' company in "The Man from Toronto."

BORO' THEATRE.—P., Messrs. Thompson and Collins; G. M., Mr. G. F. Hill; R. M., Mr. James Johnson; Mus. D., Mr. Cecil Lavender.—The Yama Yama troupe, in speciality act; Vine and Brewer, vocalists and instrumentalists; and pictures.

Boors, The Chemists, 15-17, Saville-st.

OSWESTRY.

KING'S THEATRE.—P., Mrs. Wally George; M., Mr. W. George.—King's Bijou Orchestra. Mr. and Mrs. Elliman present their pantomime, "Puss in Boots."

Boors, The Chemists, 5, Church-street.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., The Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. & S., Mr. S. C. Dorrill; Asst. M., Mr. W. F. Smith; Mus. D., Mr. C. F. Trevor.—The attraction for the week is the George Edwardes' production of "The Dollar Princess" (under the direction of Robert Evett). Starring in the cast are: Fred Magnire, Joe Nightingale; Nora O'Malley, and Shiela Gale.

Boors, The Chemists, 1, Queen-st. and 120, St. Aldates, Carfax.

PAISLEY.

THEATRE.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. Harry W. Pinchon; Mus. D., Mr. Bert W. Stephens.—The Five Jocks, in vocal and dancing scena; Jack Holden, Scotch comedian; the Daunton Shaw Troupe, Australian trick cyclists; Avis and Sans, vocal comedy duo; the Enzers, sword manipulators and ju-jitsu experts; Alec Main, baritone vocalist; and the Three Laurels, in wonderful act.

RINK PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—Sole P., Mr. E. H. Bostock; M., Mr. D. W. Reid; Mus. D., Mr. Felix Hamilton.—St. Malo and Coombs, in comedy, musical, and vocal act; Laird and Leydell, vocalists and dancers; Teddie Gibson, baritone vocalist; and pictures.

PENTRE.

GRAND.—P. & M., Mr. W. E. Willis; Mus. D., Mr. Fred French.—Messrs. James and Stillwell's Co. are here in the drama, "A White Man's Way," for the first three nights, and "Moderation" for the last three nights of the week.

RAMSGATE.

PALACE THEATRE.—Under the direction of the freeholder, Mrs. A. Reeve Sanger; R. M., Miss L. M. Bridges; M. D., Mr. A. Williamson.—Messrs. Jenkins, Layer-Parker, and Clifford are presenting the pantomime "Cinderella."

Boors, The Chemists, 20-24, Harbour-street.

REDDITCH.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. William Howgate; Mus. D., Mr. F. A. Head.—The Redditch Amateur Operatic Society present "The Rose of Persia."

RUGBY.

HIPPODROME.—P., Rugby Hippo., Ltd.; M., Mr. F. T. Studd.—Rosa Lynd's company present that highly successful comedy, "The 'Ruined' Lady." An excellent cast includes Chris. Vincent as Ann and Stephen T. Ewart as Bill Bruce.

EMPIRE.—P. & M., Mr. B. Morris.—An excellent programme includes McIvor and Scott, pipers and drummers who can dance; Harold Heath, presenting light comedy; McKinley, military ventriloquist; and Sinclaris and Delva, in song and whirlwind acrobatic dancing.

Boors, The Chemists, 26-27, High-st.

SALFORD.

PALACE.—P., Salford Palace, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Alan Young; R. M., Mr. Bert Vasco; A. M., Mr. Horace Cocks.—Harry Green and Co., Mlle. Giordano, Florence Wray, Stagpoole and Spier, Marcus, The Fayre Four.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Bernado.—Frank Benson, The Royal Naval Four, Murphy and Mack, Victor and Ramoo, Herbert Betts and Peter Kaye, Tom Payne, Tom E. Finglass.

Boors, The Chemists, 277-279, Chapel-street; 404, Regent-road; 191, Eccles New-road.

SCARBOROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—P., Empires (Wakefield), Ltd.; M., Mr. G. H. Hawkins. —The Australian Entertainers, introducing "The Dud Dream."

THEATRE ROYAL.—L. & M., Mr. Matthew Glenville.—Messrs. Stewart Finlay and Ernie King present "Tickled to Death."

Boors, The Chemists, 1, St. Nicholas-st.; 18, Newborough.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

MARINA THEATRE.—L. & M., Captain Julian Bainbridge; Mus. D., Mr. G. Whittington.—The first pantomime production in South Shields this season has been secured by Captain Julian Bainbridge for the Marina in Miss Lena Stanton's "Dick Whittington," this lady playing the title-rôle, supported by Harry Josephs as Idle Jack. A large cast of principals and chorus take part in the production.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., South Shields Empire Palace Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; R. M., Mr. Edwin Winter; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Campbell.—"The Two Rascals" and a piano; Haley's Juveniles, in a song-scena; George D'Albert, the breezy comedian; Renee and Godfrey, in speciality act; and Les Puisitis, speciality dancers, make up a good bill.

Boors, The Chemists, 39, King-street.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE.—P., St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Harry E. Johnson; Mus. D., Mr. Ireson.—E. C Jazon and Montgomery's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe."

HIPPODROME.—P., South Lancashire Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. D. J. Clarke; M., Mr. C. Barnes.—Twice nightly: Talbot O'Farrell, Egdiretta, Razza, The Bounders, Tina Paynola, Ralph and Mabel, Femina Quartette (including Miss Lillian Burgess).

Boors, The Chemists, 6-8, Ormskirk-street.

STOCKPORT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole O. & M., Mr. Charles Revill; A. M., Mr. Cyril D. Revill; B. M. & Sec., Mr. John Revill.—William Watson and company present their pantomime, "Mother Goose." The cast includes the Waldrons, Dorothy Fordham, Mollie Milne, Cliff Dacre, and Keith and Kelso.

HIPPODROME.—L., Mr. William Swire; G. M., Mr. Harry Barker.—The Two Lillys, equilibrists; Alan Martin and Tony Castle, in speciality act; Frances Kimbers, comedienne; Charles E. Sherwin, baritone-comedian; Martin and Merwin, in comedy titbits and songs; Dan Graham, comedian; and Robb Duncan and Olive Atkinson, musical entertainers.

Boors, The Chemists, 26, Bridge-st., Brow.

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—P., Mr. J. Grantham; M., Mr. G. H. Rennie; M. D., Messrs. Greenfield and Bentley.—Mr. A. Sleep's "Babes in the Wood" panto., with Miss Rita Dilston as Robin Hood.

HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. North E. Entertainments, Ltd.; M., Mr. H. B. Metcalfe; Sec., Mr. G. V. Stainton; M. D., Mr. P. Ferri.—Rubani Trio, music and song; the Mandos, whirlwind speciality; Brinn, naval pastimes; Eileen Lake, soprano; Sisters Martin, duo; Mason's comedy acrobats; and Trevis and Treves, in song and dance.

Boors, The Chemists, 104-105, High-st.

TAUNTON.

LYCEUM.—Ps., Lyceum, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. W. Butler Iles.—R. A. Maddock's pantomime, "Jack and Jill."

Boors, The Chemists, 56, North-street.

TONYPANDY.

EMPIRE.—P., Mr. W. E. Willis and Son; R. M., Capt. W. Willis; Mus. D., Professor T. White.—Mr. James Cameron presents his latest novelty, the musical comedy burlesque, "Just Whisper."

Boors, The Chemists, 121a, Dunraven-street.

TREHERBERT.

OPERA HOUSE.—R. M., Mr. James Gunn.—Mr. E. M. Bilcliffe presents the musical revue, "The Maid of the South," featuring Bert Morland, Andy Clarke, and Helene Carman.

TYNEMOUTH.

PALACE THEATRE.—L. & M., Mr. Charles Elderton; R. M., Mr. Wm. Gibson; S. M., Mr. Oliver Turnbull; Mus. D., Mr. W. K. Moore.—The Brothers Hannaway present the up-to-date musical revue, entitled "Oh! I!" appearing in which are the brothers Hannaway, Miss Hilda Brent, and Mr. Val Morgan.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT.—P., Royal Court (Warrington), Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Harry Warburton.—Mrs. Kimberley and Frank Liston present "The Home of the Fairies."

Boors, The Chemists, 126, Bridge-st., corner of Sankey-st. and Bridge-st.

WEDNESBURY.

ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—P., Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; R. M., Mr. Fred Dry.—"Aladdin" is being staged here by Mr. Jack Williams' company, with specialities by Sisters Lillian, Sisters Crichton, George and Fuller, Bros. Johnson, Louis Shand, Reg. Sackville West.

Boors, The Chemists, 51, Lynn-st.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

EMPIRE.—P., West Hartlepool Empire Palace, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; R. M., Mr. Bert Prond.—Jay Whidden, Lucille Benstead, May Henderson, Billy Reeves, Sisco, Bart's Trio, Three Ernests.

GRAND.—P., Mr. Stanley Rogers; R. M., Mr. Tom Braithwaite.—Messrs. Murray King and Clark present "Romance."

Boors, The Chemists, 51, Lynn-st.

WEYMOUTH.

PAVILION THEATRE.—L., Mr. E. Wheeler.—Mr. C. Watson Mill's company in "The Face at the Window."

Boors, The Chemists, 69-70, St. Mary-st.

YARMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Mr. Walter Nightingale.—Miss L. Bateman presents "A Peep Behind the Scenes."

AQUARIUM.—L., Mr. Walter Nightingale.—Miss Mary Austin and company in "Maria Martin."

Boots, The Chemists, 2, Broad-row, King-st., and Theatre Plain.

GET THESE PANTO HITS

THERE'S A LITTLE BIT OF DEVIL — SUNG BY— FRED BARNES
Jen Latona, Sonia Seal, Ivy Morgan, Ena Foy, Nell Calvert, Lilian Morgan, Reginald Hunt, Harry Story, Nell Leslie, Jackson & Marte, Hyde & Cody, Hilda Mostyn, Violet Carmen, Millie Jillson, Kitty Curtis, Norah Delaney.

IF WE FOUND A LITTLE CORNER
Betty Barclay & George Glover, Dora Dare & Anita Hayes, Dorothy Brett & Yvette Cazman, Clarette Ruane & Effie Patte, George Bass & Phyllis Deane, Rene Raye & Zillah Carmena, Madge White & Gabrielle Ray, Elsie Sims & Ruby Goodwin, Ada Wise & Nellie Le Bretton, Vera Rejane & Primrose Hill, Zoe Corner & Norah Lennox, Marie Terry & Nellie Babbie, Eva Macdonald & M. Buxton, Lily Hayes & Annie and Louie Parsons, Rene Rose & Edith Hateley, Messrs. Pearce & Pearce, Constance Risdon & Edith Watson, Dolcie Cariello & May Edney, Betty Charna & Edie Day, Rita Hutcheson & Dan Young, Ena Foy, Mollie Milne & Dorothy Fordham, Nancy Benyon, Agnes Croxton, Nellie Gallifant, Mona Vivian, Barbara Barrington.

WONDERFUL HEART OF GOLD
Percy Honri, Florence Chance, Margot Howard, Violet Grey, Belle Isobel, Millie Milne, Lola Messina, May Roual, M. Buxton, Marie Parsons, Frank Cass, Jack Vincent, Emmelyn Walter, Sadie Morris, Lottie Lennox, Jack Terry, Harry Robinson, Jean Andrews, Nora McCarthy, Eileen Lowe, Aimee Sammons, William Ellis, Dan Bros. & Sherry, Frank Farrell

NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 1921.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and others, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BILL MATTER FOR FEBRUARY 7 NOW DUE.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 5.30).—Gallacher and Shaw.

HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Sutcliffe Family, Charles Kemble, Merrylees and Bella, Hector and Lolletta, R. W. Walley, Eddie Stidder, Bale Troupe.

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Sydney Morris presents "Hullo, 1921."

IPSWICH LYCEUM THEATRE.—"Mr. Pim Passes By."

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Frank Elliston and company, Mlle. Renee, Sisters Lea, Alec Regan, Ethel Castaldini, Costa and Geo., Bros. Walsh.

RAYMOND world Wandering With Witty Wizardisms.

NORWICH THEATRE ROYAL.—"The Kiss Call."

PAISLEY RINK PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Bandmaster Morris.

PAISLEY THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Harry McKelvie presents "Tommy Trotter."

KENNEDY CIRCUIT.

(Rehearsal, 12.30.)

CANNOCK HIPPODROME.—"A Peep Into Fairyland."

DUDLEY OPERA HOUSE.—T. Leslie Morton and Guyton Heath's grand pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

WEST BROMWICH EMPIRE THEATRE. — Joe Morrison's "Dream Girl."

WEST BROMWICH OLYMPIA.—Harry Firth's panto., "Red Riding Hood."

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS.

(See Page 19.)

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.

CAMBERWELL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Ernie Lotinga and Co., Percy Honri, O'Gorman Bros., Johnson Clark, Effie Mann, Geo. Gilbey, Larry Lewis, Marvin and Ryde.

CLAPHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 12).—Joe Collins's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood."

COLLINS'S MUSIC HALL (rehearsal, 12).—Whit Cunliffe, The Gladiators, Mayne and Sheridan, Hilda Nelson Trio, Maggie Carr, Sisters De Wynne, Eddy Gray.

CROYDON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Joe Collins's pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor."

HAMMERSMITH PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Ernie Lotinga and Co., Ernie Mayne, Albert Whelan, The McKays, Penrose and Whitlock, Rosie Lloyd, Takio.

HOLBORN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—R. A. Roberts, Max Darewski, Daly and Healey, Ernie Mayne, Madeleine Loys, Alec Kandall, Fred Curran, Cornella and Eddy.

ILFORD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Harry Tate and Co., Ernest Hastings, Harry Champion, Daisy James, Athas and Collins, Thora, Tokio.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE (rehearsal 12).—Florrie Ford's pantomime, "Red Riding Hood."

KILBURN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Lew Lake's revue, featuring Manny and Roberts in "Dardanella."

RAYMOND Present Prestidigitateur

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Lew Lake presents "Pretty Peggy."

PALLADIUM (rehearsal, 11).—Little Tich, Geo. Mozart, Marie Lloyd, Hetty King, Terry Twins, Jack Lane, Cycling Brunettes, Togan and Geneva, Garadini.

POPLAR HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Whit Cunliffe, Tom Edwards, Aimee Roberts, The Poluskis, Gus Harris, Sammy Shields, Three Walkers.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—S. Bransgrove's pantomime, "Aladdin."

SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 12).—Joe Collins's pantomime, "Cinderella."

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12). — Harry Day's revue, "Jingles."

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Geo. Carney, Tom Edwards, Geo. Gilbey, Rosie Reys, The Westbrooks, Silver and Fox, Bert Lee, The De Breans.

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

BLACKBURN.—Bert Hughes and company, Elsie Gregory, Mangin and Kerbel, The Anserouls, Malcolm Neil, "Christmas Eve," Lena Burstow.

BRADFORD.—Winter and Bunny, Texas Duo, Frank H. Fox, Tom Rees, Betty and Billie, Burne, Star Operatic Trio.

BURNLEY.—Sydney Bransgrove presents "Forty Thieves."

CARLISLE.—Renee and Godfrey, Arturo Bernardi, Martyn and Florence, Hadyn and Nevard, Frank Melvin, Fenner and Roberts.

HALIFAX.—Messrs. Bransgrove and Littler present "Cinderella."

HUDDERSFIELD.—Jack Allen, Hanlon Bros., Bros. Leo., De Vola and Rex Bros. Alders, 10 Loonies, Ellwanger and company.

LEICESTER.—Company as booked. (Rehearsal at all Halls at 12.)

SOUTHAMPTON. — Frank Whitman, Haydee's Marionettes, Marie Kendall, Great Wielands Pan and Girls, Betancourt, Knight and Brady.

WARRINGTON.—Arthur Rigby presents "Babes in the Wood."

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30).—Gertrude Long, Harry Barclay, Charlie Rich, Martelloni Sisters, Billie Ivy Tresmand, Tameo Kajiyama, Andrea and Theo.

RAYMOND Some Sorcerer.

CARDIFF OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 11).—Versatile Twins, Tom Yorke. "Will artists kindly note that the Cardiff Olympia bars the Cardiff Hippodrome, and that no variety agent has the sole bookings of the former theatre."

EDINBURGH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Flying Banvards, Jock McKay, Fred Kitchen, assisted by Maisie Gay, in "Our Home," Bert Elliott, "The Monks of St. Bernard," Tom Fagan, Leslie Elliott.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—William Utteridge presents "The Act Beautiful," Louis Douglas and Sonny Jones, Nick Morton, The Ketos, Marie Dainton, The Buchanans, Laddie Cliff and A. Illingworth present "Milady's Dressing Table."

GATESHEAD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—May Henderson, Lucille Benstead, Jay Whidden, Three Ernests, Isobel Hunt and E. Lowrie, The Mabons, Barts Trio.

GLASGOW COLISEUM (rehearsal, 11). — Moss' Empires present "Babes in the Wood."

GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Honors and Le Prince, Madge Bilton and Max, Cooke, Mortimer and Harvey, Daphne Pollard, Wilson Hallett, The Lawrence Wright Ensemble, The Steppes.

HANLEY GRAND THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Nevill Graham presents "Dick Whittington."

HULL PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—Bathurst's Organ, with Miss Marie Ambrose, Billy Leonard, Barrie Seddon, McRae and La Porte, Eadie and Ramsden.

LEEDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Miss Florrie Forde's pantomime "Robinson Crusoe," with Florrie Forde and Reg. Bolton, &c.

LIVERPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Frank O'Dell, Ernest Pike, Kirkby and Hudson, Frederic Bentley and Co. in "All Tied Up," Hinode, May Robertson.

LIVERPOOL OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 1).—The Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—Moss' Empires, Ltd., present the Wylie-Tate production, "Aladdin."

NEWCASTLE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—

RAYMOND Pursuits Plentiful.

Moss' Empires present John Tiller's pantomime, "Jack and Jill."

NEW CROSS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Sam Barton, Hilda Glyder, Mme. Dalmere's Table Circus, Spence and Jocelyn, Rich and Galvin, G. H. Elliott, Martin and Castle, Three Coenens.

NEWPORT EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Hurman, Jeanette and Scott, Tom E. Hughes, Jessie Allan, Gene Gerrard, John, Harry and Burton Lester, Miss Merle's Cockatoos.

NOTTINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Mayne Steppers, Austin Rudd, Tom Taylor, Seymour Hicks and Mamie Watson in "The Bridal Suite," Abbie Mitchell and Will Marion Cooke, Hunter and Bob, Gicardo.

PRESTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 11).—Macdonald and Young present "Peg o' My Heart."

SALFORD PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 11).—Messrs. Wylie-Tate present "The Follies of 1920."

SHEFFIELD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Wylie-Tate pantomime, "Cinderella."

SOUTHSEA KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 1.30).—Harvey Brinton, Iizuka and Partner, The Bounders, De Busse, Knapp and Cornalla, Albert Vivian Peake and Co.

SOUTH SHIELDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—T. E. Convery's company, "Cinderella." (Note.—South Shields bars Tynemouth.)

STRATFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Billy Wells and Eclair Twins, Martinez Troupe, Talbot O'Farrell, Golda-Penville Quartette, May Ward, Jack and Tommie, Carr Lynn, Harry Ford, Rice and Werner.

SUNDERLAND EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—The Two Rascals, "The Disorderly Room," George D'Albert, Saschoff Family,

RAYMOND Wonderful Wizard With Wit.

Haley's Juveniles, The Pissiuttis, Doris O'Brien.

SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2). — Jack Merritt, Gwen Thomas, King and Benson, Hart and O'Brien, The Beswick Twins, George Calver, Allan Shaw.

WEST HARTLEPOOL EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Wylie-Tate production, "The Passing Show of 1920."

AWARD CIRCUIT.

NOTE.—Rehearsal at all Theatres at 1 p.m., with the exception of the Jubilee Hall, which is at 12 o'clock. All artists must attend.

BRIDGWATER PALACE. — Carlton Fredricks' company, in "Babes in the Wood," January 20, 21, and 22.

CHEPSTOW PALACE. — Russell and West.

JERSEY OPERA HOUSE.—A. G. Somers' Repertoire Company.

SALISBURY PALACE.—Chelsea Pensioners, D'Lonra, The Mezzettis, Leah Victoria, Megan Bros.

WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL.—Clarke and Ritchie, Slater and Rene, Hinsle and Gertie Rees, Lowdini, Oriental Trio.

YEOVIL PALACE.—Carlton Fredricks' company, in "Babes in the Wood." January 17, 18, and 19, Trevor and Ware.

STOLL TOUR.

(See Page 19.)

VARIETY THEATRES CONTROLLING CO., LTD.

BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—Maidie Scott, Laurie De Vine, Bobbie Thornton, Imperial Trio, Jack Straw, Duncan and Godfrey, Musical Navvies.

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Maud Allan, Milton Haves, Moore and Roby, Oswald Bemand, Alf. Thomas, Graham and Cullen, Les Pomi.

LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Flashes."

RAYMOND Wittiest of Wizards.

LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Loupe and Ladies, Harry Bedford, Nina Martin, Leslie, Stanelli, and Edgar, Nella Allen, Wilkie Bard, Fred Duprez, Chinko and Kauffman.

MANCHESTER PALACE.—"Jack and the Beanstalk."

NEWCASTLE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—Tina Paynola, Berkeley and Turner, James Hunter, Ackroyd and Hardy, "Short and Sweet."

PARIS ALHAMBRA.—Period commencing Jan. 14, 1921: Culpitt, Meriel, Sarah Bernhardt, Clarke's Cyclists, Alexander Patti, Valearas Trio, Leon Rogee, Lordain.

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—"Chu Chin Chow."

SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Jack and Jill."

SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—Harry Day's "Spangles."

SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—Roya, Barry Burnett, Rabla, Bransby Williams, The Berettas, Gladwys Hay-Dillon.

WOLVERHAMPTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Will Tyler, Isa Wise, Fred Brezin, Herbert Cave, Pimple, Finlay Dunn, Joe and Willy.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—The Nelson Troupe, Alfredo, Hugh Ogilvie, McIvor and Scott, the Six Heraldos, Southwood and Lady.

ALDERSHOT, ALFRED BERT'S MILITARY HALLS (rehearsal, 2.30).—The Albertian Repertory Co., Will John and Lady, Smyles and Murall, Cordery and Yorke, Syd Ernie and Les, Hurst and Harty, "Kingsley," Mabs Austin, Syd Seymour, Cecilia Ridgway, Gus Keeling, Georgie Sanson.

ASTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12). —Barleycorn Players, Laveen & Cross, Fred Keeton, Three Van Dammes, Angel Blanco, Priddoe.

ATTERCLIFFE PALACE (rehearsal, 1). —Joe Dixon, Rovelli, Amac, The Reegoes, Stanley Deane, The Clef Trio.

BATH PALACE. — Harry Taft, Mazuz and Mazette, Lowell Bros., Nancy Oldfield, Laurie Carton, Miss Isadore and Major.

CHELTENHAM COLISEUM.—"Hullo, America" revue.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Femina Quartette, Page's Dolls, Fred Sylvester and Co., Harry Fields, Payne and Hilliard.

EDMONTON EMPIRE.—Dick Ray's "Aladdin."

KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30). —Lewis Waller's Co. present "Afgar."

LONDON VICTORIA PALACE.—Arnaut Bros., W. H. Squire and Co., Betty Barclay and a "Baritone," Bob Anderson, Romaine and Dainton, G. W. Hunter, Howard, Holt, and Kendrick, Eddy Bayes.

MANSFIELD EMPIRE.—The Stellios, Le Bergs, Wal Lesby, Franco, Eileen and Mulhall, A. C. Clifton.

NORTHAMPTON NEW THETARE (rehearsal, 12).—"Misery and Co.," Sylvia Sadler, Elsie Four, F. V. St. Clair, Leslie Strange, O'Brien and Lady, Ernie Roma.

PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Henry Baynton and his Shakespearean company.

RAMSGATE PAVILION. — Delvaine's Marionettes and company as booked.

READING PALACE THEATRE.—H. J. Corner's "Symphonia," Claud Williams, Emillion Bros., Tom Reno, Arthur Melrose, Elaine Francis, George Turner.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"Les Cloches de Corneville."

WALHAM GREEN GRANVILLE (rehearsal, 12).—Ray Wallace, Fyne and Hurley, Harry Herbert, Four Black Diamonds, The Vedras, Vesta Fay, Reg. Ewen, Henry Hilton, Pathé.

South London's Little Guests.

3,000 of the poorest children in the neighbourhood were happy guests at the South London Palace on Thursday afternoon. The promoters and subscribers to the fund must have been very gratified at the result of their efforts, the youngsters being entertained for a couple of hours by a specially selected programme. The items that greatly appealed to the children were the screen pantomime of "Cinderella" and Mr. Rosser's Punch and Judy. The Three Romps also had a demonstrative greeting, and amongst the other artists who delighted the youngsters were Miss Lottie Lane, the Vincents, Dan Eden, and Fred Keeton. The Mayor of Southwark (Mr. J. A. Isaacs) looked in during the afternoon and addressed a few words to the juvenile guests, who lustily cheered the subscribers, artists, and proprietors of the South London Palace. At the conclusion of the show each child received a bag containing apples, oranges, cakes, and sweets.

"WHO'S" FRED. KITCHEN

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NEW ACTS OF THE WEEK.

DAVSON AND POP.

Type ..... Musical and Comedy Duo
Time ..... Twelve Minutes
Required ..... Piano

There is a freshness about Davson and Pop's comedy act that makes an instant appeal, and their first appearance in London, at the Euston on Monday evening, was greeted with marked approval. The turn opens with a pianoforte solo, brilliantly executed, from one of the pair. His Hebraic partner, whose appearance from amongst the audience causes considerable amusement, proves to be a talented violinist, and together they make an excellent musical combination. Some burlesque female impersonation on the part of the non-Hebraic one follows, and this pleased the house tremendously. Garbed in a flaring red wig and a décolleté gown, he renders several songs in a high falsetto voice that prove irresistibly funny. Altogether the turn is an admirable one, and goes with a rattle from beginning to end.

VAUDEVILLE CLUB BILLIARDS.

The New Year's snooker's pool tournament for the Apollo Silver Cup was started on Monday evening, when Fred Malcolm, who received 30, played Charles Austin, who received 45. Charley proved the winner. The handicap is as follows: Sam Mayo (scratch), Allan Prior recs. 5, A. Malzy recs. 10, Alf. Hurley recs. 10, E. Cleghorn recs. 10, Dave Carter recs. 20, Tom Case recs. 20, Joe Young recs. 22, H. Schuman recs. 22, S. Medelsohn recs. 22, Eric Randolph recs. 22, R. Josephs recs. 22, Sam Josephs recs. 25, Eddie Fields recs. 25, B. Goldstein recs. 25, Jesse Jacobson recs. 30, Fred Curran recs. 30, Geo. Swift recs. 30, Apollo recs. 30, Claude Ginnett recs. 30, J. W. Johnson recs. 30, Tom Wright recs. 32, Skipper Wright recs. 35, B. Montague recs. 40, Mick Jacobs recs. 40, O. Josephs recs. 40, F. Allday recs. 40, Tom Webster recs. 40, C. Heath recs. 40, Lew Lake recs. 45, D. Crawford recs. 45, George Barnet recs. 45, L. Carson recs. 45, Jack Clarke recs. 50, Morris Hyman recs. 50, Gus Garrick recs. 50, and Dave Shuter recs. 60. In addition to the honour of holding for one year the Apollo Cup, the Billiards Committee have arranged for the following prizes: 1st, solid silver cup; 2nd, gent.'s dressing-case; 3rd, silver-mounted walking-stick; 4th, cue and case.

THE PALLADIUM.

Lorna and Toots Pounds, those clever and versatile Australian entertainers, remain in the Palladium bill this week, and are repeating their great success with their wonderful mimicry and delightful renderings of several songs and dances, including a very pretty number, "Kentucky," their concluding item, "The Tin Can Jazz," calling forth the heartiest of applause. Miss Marie Lloyd continues to create much merriment with her latest comedy number, "A Bit of a Ruin," and other inimitably rendered songs; and other favourites who remain are Ernie Lotinga and Co., in that funny farcical sketch, "Three Knocks"; Little Tich, with his droll and cleverly-worded "Vive Angleterre" and "Lady at Court" numbers; Max Darewski, the brilliant pianist; and the Faynes, whose unusuality "In a Conservatory" includes some of the most marvellous contortionist feats by the male member of the duo that we have ever seen. That unique humorist George Mozart returns with his clever thumb-nail sketches of character; and newcomers are McRae and La Port, the flying Scotchmen, who do many clever things on the trapeze and have a funny finale; and the Gladiators (James Findlay and Louis Christiansen), in a marvellous strong man act, which is admirably presented.

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"A PRODIGAL WIFE."

Domestic Drama, in Four Acts, by Henrietta Schrier and Lodge-Percy, Pro-duced at Stratford Theatre Royal, on Monday, Jan. 10.

Sir Ernest Sunfair ..Mr. Lodge-Percy
Jack Manfold
Mr. E. Hamilton-Jackson
Richard Manwaring
Mr. Geoffrey L. Carlile
Sir Thos. Manfold
Mr. E. N. Buckland
Wilhelm Zimmermeyer
Mr. Norman E. Burnell
Betty Manfold ....Miss Maisie Evelyn
Lady Manfold
Miss Nellie Thorne Hallam
Evelyn Lauderdale
Miss Henrietta Schrier

Originally produced at Glasgow, "A Prodigal Wife" has been revised, and in its new guise is an effective domestic drama. The play opens at Sir Thomas Manfold's house. A letter arrives from his son, a prisoner of war in Germany, in which the writer states that he was secretly married to Betty Sinclair, a chorus girl, whom he asks the old folk to look after. They search for her, and find her with her friend, Evelyn Lauderdale, who has "mothered" her. Evelyn consequently grieves when Betty leaves to take her rightful place. Jack Manfold returns home, and when he discovers Betty in the house of his people he charges her with being an imposter, declaring he does not know her, and never married her. His antipathy is deepened by the discovery that she is in the power of Wilhelm Zimmermeyer, who has used her for his own ends in worming secrets from officers. However, he agrees that it would be a serious blow for his parents to learn the truth, and she remains in the home as his wife. Fortunately a returned soldier, who becomes servant to Sir Ernest Sunfair, a friend of the family, is able to straighten things out, for in enclosing letters for two brother-officers he later discovers he put the missives in the wrong envelopes, and it seems that the officer who wrote declaring Betty was his wife was none other than the son of the Duke of Lanchester. With the object of clearing up the mystery Sir Ernest Sunfair accompanies Betty to London, but meeting with an accident leaves her unprotected, a fact which Zimmermeyer is not slow to take advantage of. He conveys Betty in a car presumably to the hospital, but actually to his own rooms, but his plans are upset by the ex-soldier and Evelyn Lauderdale. Eventually Jack Manfold finds that, after all, he loves the girl who had been his wife in name only, but Betty loses by death her loyal friend Evelyn.

Miss Henrietta Schrier, an old favourite at this theatre, had a tumultuous reception as the Bohemian Evelyn Lauderdale, her homely touches being very natural and effective. The Sir Ernest Sunfair of Mr. Lodge-Pedcy was typical of a clean, upstanding British gentleman. Mr. Geoffrey L. Carlile made the dude, Richard Manwaring, a really lovable character. Hamilton-Jackson was an excellent Jack Manfold, and Sir Thomas Manfold in the hands of Mr. E. N. Buckland was a dignified old English gentleman. Miss Nellie Thorne Ballam did well as the much-tried mother of Jack Manfold. The character of Wilhelm Zimmermeyer was strongly portrayed by Mr. Norman E. Burnell and Miss Maisie Evelyn gave a sympathetic rendering of the part of Betty.

"THE PICCADILLY PURITAN."

Four-Act Comedy by Lechmere Worroll. Founded on the Novel by Gertie S. Wentworth James, Produced at the West Pier, Theatre, Brighton, on Monday, Dec. 10.

Charles ..... Henry C. Hewitt
Enid ..... Gladys Calthrop
Miss Mannering ..... Marie Ault
Mrs. Paynter ..... Denzil Mather
Florence ..... Dorothy Lart
Lord Batte ..... John Trafford
Hostess at the White Hart
Lillian Stanley
Maid at the White Hart..Joyce Hoyle
Alice ..... Doreen Whitton

This four-act comedy produced on Monday night met with unqualified approval, three or four "curtains" being demanded at the end of each act. The play is founded on the novel by Gertie S. Wentworth James. Charles and Enid are brother and sister, and the story opens with his telling her that he does not intend to marry her friend. He has, it appears, picked up a young girl whom he intends to educate. Charles has more money than he knows what to do with, and has engaged the services of a mutual friend, a Mrs. Paynter, who is to chaperone and improve Alice (the name of the girl). Enid is introduced to her and the beautifully furnished flat her brother has provided for her, and is decidedly sceptical as to the results of her brother's experiment. Though Charles and Mrs. Paynter presumably know the world, they are not clever enough to see they are being duped by Alice, who is in reality not a girl of the streets, but a well-known young lady who is anxious to see if she can find a man willing to respect her, though she makes no secret of her supposed profession. Mrs. Paynter is the one who plays the sinister game, and though taking a big fee from Charles is willing to sell Alice to Lord Batte, an acquaintance, as she is in sore straits for money. With the aid of her aunt, Alice keeps up the illusion, but the former sees the game Mrs. Paynter is playing, and in a wonderfully clever drunken scene discloses the fact, much to her indignation. Alice forces Charles's hand by persuading him to take her to an inn where she describes herself as his wife. Rather than take advantage of the situation he leaves her, and a note behind him explaining why. Both are thoroughly in love with one another, and the fourth act sees the unmasking of everyone, and a happy ending.

The comedy was presented by an excellent company, Miss Doreen Whitton giving a clever yet charming impersonation of Alice. Miss Marie Ault, who plays the part of Miss Mannering, Alice's aunt, is an admirable artist, and her acting in the drunken scene is worthy of all praise. Mrs. Paynter, the designing society woman, was natural as played by Miss Denzil Mather, and as Charles Mr. Henry C. Hewitt was easy and unaffected. Mr. John Trafford, as Lord Batte, was good as a society man of few scruples, and Miss Dorothy Lart, as Florence, was a saucy little maid, and others who helped in an excellent performance were Miss Gladys Calthrop as Enid, Miss Lilian Stanley as Hostess of the "White Hart" Inn, and Miss Joyce Hoyle as the maid at the same hostelry.

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"ALADDIN" AT SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

A beautifully dressed and splendidly staged production of "Aladdin" received an enthusiastic welcome from a packed house at the first performance at the Shepherd's Bush Empire on Monday. The pantomime is presented by Reliable Enterprises, Ltd., and George Bliss and a fine company makes it go with a bang from start to finish. The title-rôle is vivaciously played by pretty Miss Clarice Chesney, who makes a very dainty principal boy, and she has a charming vis-à-vis in Miss Dorothy Vere as the Princess. The chief comedian is Mr. Bert Harrow, who, in the fine part of Abanazar, finds plenty of scope for his ripe humour. The two Chinese Policemen are played in amusing style by the Brothers Costello, and their speciality tumbling makes one of the hits of the show. Another very successful couple—ladies this time—are Jubb and Jerome, as the second boy and girl. Their duets are particularly good, the "Jazz Band" number arousing the audience to great enthusiasm. As the Emperor Géni is Mr. Jack Barlow, playing in sound fashion and singing splendidly. Mr. Teddie Bass contributes a neat character sketch as Wishee Washee, and Miss Lily Pickard makes a handsome Slave of the Lamp. The songs are excellent, some of the chief successes being "Homely" and "Too Many Girls" (Miss Chesney), "Go to Sleep My Baby" (Miss Vere), "You Know What I Mean" (Jubb and Jerome), the burlesque singing of "You and Me" (Bown and Dane), and the quartette, "Smith, James, Robinson, and Brown." Credit must be given to Mr. T. H. Solly for the fine production, which, it should be mentioned, is under the general direction of Mr. G. E. Williams.

CECIL WHEN YOU HAVE SEEN ALL OTHERS— AND IAN LAW "JUNE AND YOU," the Waltz Song of the season. Featured by Miss ALICE LILLY and Miss DOROTHY LLOYD. Theatre Royal, Wimbledon. Address c/o "The Era."

"THE ERA" FILM SECTION

TOPICS OF THE TRADE.

THE FUTILITY OF THE ADAPTATION.

ORIGINAL SCREEN PLAYS IMPERATIVE.

A YEAR or so ago in this column we referred to the fact that the supply of novels and stage plays suitable for transference to the screen was rapidly becoming exhausted, and expressed the opinion that the time would soon arrive when that supply would no longer be able to keep pace with the producers' demands. We suggested that a famine in stories would inevitably result, unless the cult, so popular among producers, particularly British ones, of preferring adaptations to original works, came to an end, and we pointed out that a subject written direct for the screen is necessarily likely to make a very much better film play than the adaptation of a subject originally written for a totally different medium. Two or three years ago scarcely one producer in a dozen would have openly agreed with such a point of view, for nearly all of them professed to prefer the adaptation of a second-rate book, by a second-rate and unknown author, to any first-class scenario written direct for the screen by one of the experienced picture playwrights.

RELIABLE EVIDENCE.

But things seem to be improving. For example, in a communication we received last week from Mr. Cecil De Mille, the brilliant Famous Players-Lasky producer, he actually stated: "Although there are several good plays and novels available, they are good merely as stage productions or as books. They are rarely of any use as motion picture material, for the reason that they were written to be produced upon the stage, or to be published between covers. The motion picture medium is entirely different, and is a new art."

Mr. De Mille might have added, with equal truth, that providing an author is familiar with motion picture technique, which, after all, is mainly a mechanical accomplishment, that it is very much easier for him—if he really is an author and not a continuity hack—to prepare his own theme for the screen than that of someone else. In the latter endeavour his "ingredients" must be based upon, or at any rate closely allied to, the matter printed in the book, whereas when writing his own original scenario he can rely entirely upon his own imagination, and include in his work everything appropriate which it dictates.

ROUND ABOUT FILMLAND.

Alliance Activities—Broadwest's Record—Looking for a Ghost.

Disabled "Boys" See "Alf's Button."

Nearly forty disabled sailors and soldiers from Roehampton viewed the famous Hepworth comedy, "Alf's Button," in the private theatre of the Imperial Film Co., Ltd., 167/9, Wardour-street, recently, at the invitation of Mr. Paul Kimberley, O.B.E., managing director. The funny antics of Leslie Henson, and the clever work of the Hepworth team of players, appearing in the film, proved vastly amusing to "the boys," and hearty laughter rang through the building as each incident in the story of the magic button was presented on the screen. During the evening Mr. Paul Kimberley welcomed his guests in a few well-chosen words, and spoke of some of his earlier experiences in entertaining the boys in blue from Roehampton.

Light refreshments were handed round, and Mr. Lloyd Chandos sang several of his popular numbers, including "The Bells of St. Mary" and "The Mill by the Sea." Votes of thanks were passed with enthusiasm to Mr. Paul Kimberley for his kindness, and to Mr. Lloyd Chandos for his singing.

Alliance Forthcoming Productions.

Among the productions that the Alliance have in view, and which will shortly be offered are: "The Door That Has No Key," a human and arresting story by Cosmo Hamilton. "The Money Moon" and "The Broad Highway" will be the selected works of Jeffrey Farnol, in the first named of which Stella Patrick Campbell will be featured; from that prolific writer Cecil H. Bullivant "The Wife Whom God Forgot" and "The Hammer of God" have been selected for production—in the former Gertrude McCoy plays lead. In "The Holiday Husband," by Dolf Wyllarde, the popular musical comedy artist, Harry Welchman, will appear with Irma Royce as leading woman. In "Love and a Whirlwind," written by Helen Prothero Lewis, the picturesque Welsh scenery and atmosphere that has made this story famous will be pictured. Gertrude McCoy will portray the heroine.

Two popular plays will also be screened. "The Little Brother," from the Ambassadors Theatre,, and "The Choice," in which Gerald du Maurier will enact his stage character in the screen version. Another production of considerable interest will be "Within an Ace of Death."

"Carnival."

Alliance Film Corporation, Ltd., again strongly advise exhibitors and the trade generally that early application is necessary to obtain seats for the trade show of "Carnival" to be held on Feb. 8 at the Alhambra, at 2.45 in the afternoon. Many applications have already been received, and as each seat will be numbered and reserved exhibitors will, by stating their requirements at once, greatly assist Alliance Film Corporation in getting the seats rightly allocated.

Record Year for Films.

During the past twelve months Mr. Walter West, of the Broadwest Company, has been responsible for the production of no fewer than fourteen British films. This shows a remarkable increase compared with previous years, and Mr. West hopes that during 1921 the output from his studios will be doubled.

The most recent contributions to the list of British films from these studios are "The Great Gay Road," "Trent's Last Case," "Her Penalty," "The Loudwater Mystery," and "In Full Cry." Mr. West has obtained the film rights of some exceptionally fine stories, which will be filmed at the Broadwest Studios during the coming year.

"Her Penalty."

The trade show date of "Her Penalty," which is a Broadwest five-reel production, founded on an original story, will be announced shortly. Stewart Rome plays the leading part, whilst Pauline Peters and Clive Brook also have important rôles. This production is included in the Walturdaw programme of releases.

New Film Magazine.

The first number of "The Picture Goer," the new all-photogravure monthly film magazine, contains many interesting articles, and is beautifully illustrated and produced. In "Accidents Will Happen" many instances are quoted of the incongruities which are to be found in American pictures of English life. One of the most amusing recorded is that of a hunting scene in Scotland. Some of the party are on horseback, some are unmounted and carry guns, and there is a pack of hounds. The huntsman blows a horn, a sportsman shoots, and a fox-hound retrieves a grouse! Many beautifully reproduced page portraits of film stars and articles dealing with every phase of the kinema industry are included in the January "Picture Goer." It is issued by Odhams' Press, Ltd., and is a picture magazine on which John Dunbar is to be cordially complimented.

An Experienced Manager.

Mr. Charles Gascoigne, manager of Stranraer New Kinema, was for many years with the famous Livermore Brothers, of Court Minstrel fame, and acted as their manager at Bristol for 16 years. During that period he had the fine record of collecting over £2,000 for charities, and over £600 for Crimean and Indian Mutiny veterans. Later he became manager of Collins's Music Hall, Islington. Mr. Gascoigne is a life governor of the Bristol General Hospital, and is a Freemason.

Nora on the Screen.

Nora, the performing hippopotamus at the Crystal Palace Circus, following the example of other stage favourites, is determined to go up on the screen. She made her début in front of the kinematograph camera last Thursday, when the Pathé Company took a film of the circus. The previous night ten assistants, under the direction of Mr. J. Andrews, the producer, worked throughout the night fitting up 2,400 feet of cable and installing the powerful lights which were to make the film possible. When these lights were full on the illumination was equal to a million and a half candle-power. Most of the animals took the sudden glare quietly after the first blink of surprise, and Nora's acting was so natural that if she cares to take up the screen as a profession it seems highly probable that in a certain line of parts she might make a distinct hit.

Vitagraph.

Webster Campbell, who has appeared opposite Corinne Griffith in several of her Vitagraph productions, and who is one of the best-known of the screen's leading men, will direct Miss Griffith in her next Vitagraph picture. Miss Griffith recently completed "It Isn't Being Done this Season," and will rest until after the holidays.

Earle Williams is taking a motor tour of California while the scenario for his next Vitagraph feature is being prepared. He recently finished "Diamonds Adrift," a comedy drama by Frederick J. Jackson

In Search of a Ghost.

B. E. Doxat-Pratt, the producer of "The Other Person," the new Granger-Binger play, founded on Fergus Hume's celebrated novel, is in search of a ghost. The story deals, amongst other things, with spiritualism, and the engrossing questions of the spirit world are tackled by Doxat-Pratt from many standpoints.

FORTHCOMING TRADE SHOWS.

LONDON.

Gamble in Lives (Pathé), London Pavilion, 2.30, Jan. 12.
The Brute (Hayward), Shaftesbury, 11.15, Jan. 12.
Gamble in Lives (Pathé), Own Theatre, 2.30, Jan. 13.
Blackmail (Jury), Own Theatre, 10 and 3, Jan. 13.
Martin the Foundling (Regent Film Co.), Shaftesbury, 10.30, Jan. 15.
Case at Law (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 2.45, Jan. 13 and 14.
Two Little Urchins (Gaumont), West End, 11, Jan. 18.

BIRMINGHAM.

The Wakefield Case (Gaumont), Futurist, 11, Jan. 12.
The Skin Game (Granger), Scala, 11, Jan. 12.
The Yellow Claw (Stoll), New-st. P.H., 11, Jan. 12.
Water, Water Everywhere (Goldwyn), Futurist, 11, Jan. 13.
A Case at Law (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 3, Jan. 18.

CARDIFF.

The Yellow Claw (Stoll), Cinema Ex., 2.30, Jan. 12.
The Yellow Claw (Stoll), Own Theatre, 3, Jan. 12.
The Yellow Claw (Stoll), Own Theatre, 11 and 3, Jan. 13.

GLASGOW.

A City Sparrow (F.-Lasky), Cinema House, 11, Jan. 12.
A Gamble in Lives (Pathé), Cranston's, 11, Jan. 12.
The Sphinx (L.I.F.T.), Salon, 11, Jan. 12.
In Quest of Happiness (West. Imp.), New Savoy, 11, Jan. 13.
Island of Wisdom (Bendon), Cranston's, 11, Jan. 13.
The Yellow Claw (Stoll), Sauchiehall-st. P.H., 11, Jan. 13.

LEEDS.

The Branding Iron (Goldwyn), Cinema Ex., 10.40, Jan. 12.
Pirate Gold (Pathé), Cinema Ex., 11.40, Jan. 13.
Challenge of the Law (Fox), Cinema Ex., 2.40, Jan. 13.
Forged Bride (F.B.O.), Cinema Ex., 10.40 Jan. 13.

LIVERPOOL.

Man Who Made Good (West. Imp.), Cinema Ex., 3.30, Jan. 12.
Hard Cash (Butcher), Scala, 11, Jan. 12.
The Irresistible Force (Phillips), Cinema Ex., 11, Jan. 12.
The Wakefield Case (Gaumont), Scala, 11, Own Theatre, 2.30, Jan. 19.

MANCHESTER.

A Gamble in Lives (Pathé), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Jan. 12.
Nemesis (L.I.F.T.), Cinema Ex., 11, Jan. 12.
A Gamble in Lives (Pathé), Own Theatre, 11 and 2.30, Jan. 13.
Girl of My Heart (Fox), Deansgate, 11, Jan. 13.
Man Who Made Good (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 2.30, Jan. 14.
Submarine Pirate (West. Imp.), Peter-st., 11.30, Jan. 14.

NEWCASTLE.

Mystic Faces (West. Imp.), Own Theatre, 11 and 2, Jan. 12.
Something to Think About (F.-Lasky), Granger P.H., 11.15, Jan. 12.
Hard Cash (Butcher), Stoll P.T., 11.15, Jan. 12.
Me and Captain Kidd (General), Stoll P.T., 11.15, Jan. 13.
The Pride of the Fancy (Granger), New Pavilion, 11.15, Jan. 14.
The Wakefield Case (Gaumont), Chromo House, 11 and 2, Jan. 17 and 18.
The Skin Game (Granger), New Pavilion, 11.15, Jan. 19.

NOTTINGHAM.

Below the Surface (F.-Lasky), Long Row P.H., 11, Jan. 12.
Pirate Gold (Pathé), Cinema Ex., 11, Jan. 12.
The Mystery Mind (Majestic), Victoria Cinema, 11, Jan. 12.
The Branding Iron (Goldwyn), Picture House, 11, Jan. 13.
The Skin Game (Granger), Scala, 11, Jan. 14.

SHEFFIELD.

Merely Mary Ann (Fox), Electra Palace, 11, Jan. 12.
La Poupée (Wardour), Tivoli, 12, Jan. 12.
Water, Water, Everywhere (Goldwyn), Picture House, 11, Jan. 13.
Under Suspicion (F.B.O.), Tivoli, 12, Jan. 12.
The Wakefield Case (Gaumont), Tivoli, 11, Jan. 13.

Sunday Cinemas in Plymouth.

At Plymouth Watch Committee a deputation from the Devon and Cornwall Branch of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association attended and presented a numerously-signed petition to open the cinemas for the exhibition of films on Sundays, between the hours of 6 and 10 o'clock, subject to certain conditions set out in the petition. The Committee have refused to entertain the idea of Sunday opening.

Hayward Productions.

The new address of the Hayward Productions is 29a, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.

NOTICE TO THEATRE & CINEMA PROPRIETORS

Before fixing your Advertising Contract, get in touch with DARBY'S, 81, London Road, Croydon, who will pay you the top price. Specialists in Drop Curtains, Street Scenes, Artistic Slides, and programme Advertising.
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TO ARTISTS.—Kindly send latest photograph, stating height, age, speciality, when at liberty, &c., to CASTING DIRECTOR. Interview by appointment only. Previous screen experience not absolutely necessary.

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FILM ARTISTS' CARDS.

KITTIE LEE
Juvenile Lead.
C/o Boston Photoplay Company, 20, Wellington-street, Strand, W.C.

TRADE SHOWS OF THE WEEK.

By "THE ERA" SPECIAL REVIEWERS.

"THE YELLOW CLAW."

HAUNT OF THE OPIUM FIEND.

Production .....Stoll Film Co.
Type .....Drama
Length .....Five Reels

Adapted from the novel of the same name, "The Yellow Claw" is engrossing, topical, and entertaining, and should do excellent business. The locale is mainly the Oriental haunt of the drug victim, and the theme centring, as it does, round a murder, is particularly strong. In the finale there is an exciting motor boat chase up the Thames, Tower Bridge forming an imposing background. The cast, a well-picked one, acquit themselves admirably, and special tribute must be paid to Miss Kitty Fielder, who develops in the fifth reel into quite a serial heroine. Lighting and photography are first-class, and the opium cave scene is tastefully carried out.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

* * *

"PIRATE GOLD."

STRUGGLE FOR WEALTH.

Production .....Pathé
Type .....Serial
Stars ....George Saultz and Margaret Cortol.

Congratulations to Pathé Frères on a film serial as plentifully supplied with humour as it is with thrills. "Pirate Gold" is very entertaining and delightfully acted. George Saultz has an attractive personality and style of acting, and is obviously the right man in the right part. Charming Margaret Cortol makes a dainty leading lady, and the supporting cast work well. The story tells of the efforts of a chemist and his adventurous young son to unearth some buried treasure, which is also to the liking of three individuals, who do their utmost to kill the young adventurer and his lady friend. Time after time they set what appear to be death traps, but luck and a strong right arm help the hero to remain above old Mother Earth. The last episode screened at the trade show shows the discovery of the treasure under the sea, the hero suffocating in his diver's outfit, and the crooks for the first time being top dogs.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

* * *

"THE BRANDING IRON."

JEALOUSY WRECKS HAPPINESS OF NEWLY-WEDS.

Production .....Goldwyn
Type .....Drama
Star .....Barbara Castleton
Length .....Five Reels

"The Branding Iron" is strong, forceful entertainment from start to finish, perfectly produced and superbly acted. The snow scenes are very beautiful, and are the most artistically lighted and tinted we have ever seen, while the city sets are equally well carried out. Barbara Castleton is an actress whose every movement is convincing. An eternal triangle story, the opening deals with the marriage of Joan to Pierre, a Westerner capable of a great love, but an ever greater jealousy. The couple are happy till Pierre is told by his father-in-law of his wife's notorious mother, and, later, poor innocent Joan is accused of an affair with a good-natured clergyman, and branded with his cattle mark by the drink-maddened Pierre. At the critical moment a stranger enters, shoots Pierre, and carries Joan away to his luxurious hut. The rescuer is Prosper Gains, a well-known author, and, attracted by the girl's beauty, he lies to her of her husband's death, and by carefully laid plans eventually wins her. Later, he brutally sends her back to her old life, returning himself to the city. Joan is adopted by a society woman and her husband, and at a first night at the theatre realises that her lover has made her affair with him into a play. He endeavours to lure her back, but Pierre makes a dramatic reappearance, and the couple are reunited.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

* * *

"THE MYSTERY MIND."

BATTLE FOR GOLD BETWEEN HYPNOTIST AND DEVIL-WORSHIPPERS.

Production .....Supreme
Type .....Serial
Star .....J. Robert Pauline
Length .....16 2-reel Episodes
Distributors .....United Kingdom

"The Mystery Mind," one of the latest serials to be trade-shown, is full of action and excitement, the adventures of Dr. Dupont and Violet, his pretty sweetheart, being many and varied. Years before, while living with her father near the upper reaches of the Orinoco, the child had been cursed by Evil Eye, the high priest of the Devil-Worshippers, and now, when she is on the threshold of womanhood, a gang of crooks plot against the girl's life that they may regain "the gold of the gods." Violet's sweetheart, Dr. Dupont, is a famous hypnotist, and he is successful in rescuing the girl from various terrible situations. Finally, however, Violet's father makes a happy reappearance, the gold is discovered, and the Devil-Worshippers disappear into the unknown.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

* * *

"THE CHALLENGE OF THE LAW."

'TWIXT LOVE AND DUTY.

Production .....William Fox
Type .....Drama
Star .....William Russell
Length .....Five Reels

A romance of the Canadian backwoods, "The Challenge of the Law" is an entertaining and finely produced subject. William Russell plays with strength and animation, and Helen Ferguson is a charming leading lady. Into the notorious smuggling town of Fort Qu'Appelle rides Sergeant Bruce Cavanaugh and his pal Wallace, two stalwart members of the Canadian North-West Mounted Police. Bruce becomes friendly with Madeline Du Barre, the daughter of a famous fur smuggler, at the moment absent on one of his criminal missions. Shortly after Madeline and Bruce have plighted their troth he returns, and is immediately arrested. Madeline begs Bruce to release her father, but he remains true to the traditions of his regiment. With anger blazing in her heart she seeks the aid of Jules Fourchette, an admirer, and together they rescue Du Barre and flee into the desert. Bruce follows, and later catches up with the girl, who endeavours to make him return. But he is eager to find the murderer of Wallace, his pal, and, although enduring terrible hardships, staggers on. Finally, when only Du Barre is left alive, news comes to hand of the real murderer, and Madeline, after successfully pleading for her father's return, rewards Bruce with her love.

* * *

"FROM OUT THE SKY."

A CIRCUS GIRL'S BRAVERY.

Production .....Universal
Type .....Drama
Stars..Jack Perrin and Gladys Walton
Length .....Five Reels

"From Out the Sky" is an admirable entertainment, containing some really gripping scenes, delightful acting, and plenty of humour. Gladys Walton, as the dainty little circus star, is deserving of much praise, and is a sympathetic and convincing actress. George Perrin is good as a young clergyman, and the supporting cast work excellently. Into Pleasanton, Mass., a veritable hotbed of narrow-mindedness, comes that attraction for old and young—a circus. Mazie Dainton, otherwise known as "Queen of the Air," is specially criticised on account of her scanty costume. During a parachute descent she lands on the roof of the house of the handsome and youthful pastor of Pleasanton, and is hidden in a bedroom while a mothers' meeting is being held. But Pastor Meek's visitor is discovered, and it is only by lies on Mazie's part that Meek's reputation is saved. When the circus is stranded the artists are allowed to sleep in the church, an act of charity which is not appreciated by Pleasanton. During the night two small town boys cause a fire in the belfry, and Mazie risks death to rescue one of the children from the flames. A repentant congregation pray for the now idolised girl's recovery, and when she is better Mazie is reunited to her circus sweetheart, and together they leave Pleasanton.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

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"DISCORD AND HARMONY."

IN WHICH A CONVICT WINS BACK HIS PLACE IN SOCIETY.

Production .....British Famous Films, Ltd.
Type .....Domestic Drama
Star .....Frank Keenan
Length .....Five Parts

"Discord and Harmony," screened at the Super Cinema on Friday for Messrs. British Famous Films, Ltd., is the story of two brothers. One, Tom King, in his youth has run wild and been sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment; the other, Matthew King, has grown up prosperous and narrow-minded. He and his wife have looked after Max, their nephew, brought up to believe his father a model character, who has died. In reward for his heroic behaviour in a prison fire Tom is pardoned and released. He returns just as Matthew, in a fit of anger, has smashed the violin the boy Max has saved up to buy. The shock of his brother's appearance causes a stroke, and Tom takes up the reins of the factory—the King Mills—half of which really belongs to him. Max, however, is so upset at the discovery that he goes away, leaving his father to take up his burden of facing the world again, alone. Meanwhile he studies hard that he may return and marry Ruth, the daughter of a professor of the violin. Tom gradually makes good. He does not attempt to disguise his past, but by fair and better treatment establishes friendlier relations between himself and his work-people, and when Matthew does recover it is to find a different order of things. Later Max sees how badly he himself has acted, and returns to find both father and sweetheart waiting for him. The acting of Frank Keenan in the dual role is excellent.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

* * *

"THE SKIN GAME."

JOHN GALSWORTHY'S SUCCESSFUL PLAY ON THE SCREEN.

Production .....Granger-Binger
Stars .....Edmund Gwenn and Mary Clare
Type .....Drama
Length .....Six Reels
Distributors .....Granger

The success of "The Skin Game" at the St. Martin's Theatre will certainly be equalled by the screen version which was shown at the Alhambra on Friday afternoon. The original Reandean Company act the screen version, and each character is finely acted. The sub-title, too, is excellent. Mr. Edward Gwenn is as successful on the screen in conveying the masterful and pugnacious characteristics of Hornblower as he is on the stage. Miss Mary Clare gives a fine study as the unfortunate Chloe, and Mr. Dawson Milward is excellent as Squire Hilchrist. Some beautiful country-house scenes are screened, and the interiors are both appropriate and artistic. Especially noteworthy are scenes depicting the rivals at a night club and the dining-room of a famous hotel. Messrs. Granger are to be heartily congratulated on another conspicuous British success.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

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"CIVILIAN CLOTHES."

HUSBAND CURES HIS WIFE OF SNOBBISHNESS.

Production .....Paramount
Star .....Thomas Meighan
Type .....Comedy-Drama
Length .....Five Reels
Release .....Jan. 2, 1922
Distributors .....Famous-Lasky

Florence Lanham, a wealthy and spoilt society girl, marries during the war Captain Sam McGinness, who has risen from the ranks. When the war is over and Sam, wearing a lond suit, comes to visit his bride, she is horrified at his appearance, and the marriage is kept a secret. McGinness obtains the position of butler in his wife's family, and some highly diverting scenes occur before the conclusion, which finds Sam offered a good position by an old army companion, and Florence, completely cured of her snobbishness. Thomas Meighan plays the part of Sam McGinness for all it is worth, and Martha Mansfelde makes a charming figure as Florence Lanham.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

* * *

"A CITY SPARROW."

HARD-WORKED CITY GIRL FINDS LOVE AND CONTENTMENT IN THE COUNTRY.

Production .....Paramount
Star .....Ethel Clayton
Type .....Drama
Length .....Four Reels
Release .....Jan. 19, 1922
Distributors .....Famous-Lasky

Ethel Clayton is seen in this picture depicting with her usual cleverness the character of Milly West, who earns her living as a stage dancer. As the result of an accident she is detained in hospital for some months, but after a while she tries to take up her old occupation. Her strength, however, gives out, and she is taken to Springdale, in the country, by Dave Muir. The couple fall in love, but Dave's love of little children causes mental torture to Milly, who has been told that as the result of the accident she can never become a mother. However, after some pathetic scenes the picture finishes on a note of happiness for the lovers. In addition to Ethel Clayton, Clyde Fulmore is very good as Dave, and Walter Hiers makes a most amusing character as Tim Ennis, a corpulent admirer of the heroine. The cabaret and theatre scenes are admirably contrasted with the pretty country and farmyard scenes, and lighting and photography are excellent.

[*See our Film Markings.*]

FILM MARKINGS.

For the benefit of Exhibitors in London and the Provinces who are booking their programmes solely on our markings, we are in future giving further details. We would point out that the markings allotted to films in this section are given on their relative drawing power to showmen:—

Reference No. .. .. 6—10.
Suit high-class audience.....A | Suit sensational audience C
Suit average audience .....B | Suit any audience .....D

EXCLUSIVES.

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Feet.	Marks.	Suitability.
Notknown	The Yellow Claw	Stoll-Plassidy	Melodr'ma	6000	9½	C B D
Jan. 19, 1922 ..	A City Sparrow	Paramount-Art. Lasky	Drama	4000	8¼	B
Jan. 2, 1922 ..	Civilian Clothes	Paramount-Art. Lasky	Drama	5000	8¾	B
March 6 ..	Someone in the House ..	Jury's-Metro.	Comedy-Drama	5000	8¾	B
March 9 ..	The Golden Hope	Jury's-R. Cole	Drama	4250	9¼	B D
March —..	Roof Gardens, Rough House.	Pioneer	Comedy	2000	8½	B
Notknown	Nemesis	L.I.F.T.U.C.I.	Drama	6000	9	A C
Notknown	The Branding Iron	Goldwyn	Drama	7000	9½	B D
Notknown	The Mystery Mind	U.K. Supreme	Serial	15000	8¾	C
Notknown	Pirate Gold	Pathé	Serial	1.000	8¾	B D
Notknown	From Out the Sky	Phillips-Universal	Drama	—	8¾	B
Notknown	The Safebrusher	Wardour-American	Drama	7000	9½	B
Notknown	Discord and Harmony ..	British Famous Films	Drama	5000	8¾	B
Notknown	The Skin Game	Granger-Binger	Drama	6000	9¾	D
Notknown	Light Hearts and Leaking Pipes	Pioneer	Comedy	2000	8½	B
Notknown	Among the Meabs	Granger-Marvels	—	—	9	D
Notknown	A Forged Wife	F.B.O.-Universal	—	5000	8½	B

OPEN MARKET.

Jan. 10 ..	Pathé Pictorial	Pathé	Interest	—	8½	D
Jan. 10 ..	Pathé Gazette	Pathé	Interest	—	8½	D

"THE ERA" FILM SECTION.

MUSICAL SUGGESTIONS FOR NEXT WEEK'S RELEASES.

GUIDE TO MUSICAL DIRECTORS.

(SPECIALLY COMPILED FOR "THE ERA.")

Musical directors should not fail to secure the "Suggestions" for film accompaniments which appear week by week in "The Era." Directors who take advantage of these "Suggestions" will have five days in advance of the release in which to obtain the necessary selections. Musical suggestions, if published, should be sent on when the film is booked, but they seldom arrive before the film, if at all.

This is the secret of the musical director's trouble. He either gets none or they are too late to use for the first house. The Editor of "The Era" has therefore resolved that he will do all in his power to assist in this matter by publishing as many suggestion sheets as possible.

This week's instalment supplies the music most suitable for the following films:—

"THE SKYWAYMAN."

Fox Film.

Released January 17.

Change Cues.	Style.	Nature of Number.
PART I.		
Lieutenant Ormer Locklear	Romance..	Ser. Flo. Sli. Dram.
A gallant Crusader ..	,, ..	Dram. Ex. Flo.
*When aeroplane loops the loop	Overture ..	Lit. Alleg. Agit.
*When airmen enter hotel	Romance..	Dram. Ex.
I was stationed at Armentieres	,, ..	Ser. Path. Mel.
PART II.		
Opening	Last numb	er continued
Everything is set ..	Romance..	Dram. Ex.
Memories	Intermezzo	Sld. Flo. Mel.
One canny editor ..	,, ..	Lit. Flor.
Is there any truth ..	Romance..	Ser. Dram. Mel.
Ever since you fled over	Overture ..	Hvy. Agit. for fight
Not even that peachy	Romance..	Ser. Flo.
PART III.		
And then before he can	Romance..	Ser. Dram. Mel.
Get ready, Sergeant..	,, ..	Lit. Ex. Mel.
*When aeroplane off ..	Overture ..	Lit. Ex. Agit.
Capt. Locke didn't know	Romance..	Ser. Flo.
*When Locke on top of train	Overture ..	Ex. Alleg. Agit.
*When man receives letter	Romance..	Ser. Flo.
*When Locke and Virginia leave aeroplane	Overture ..	Myst. Agit.
PART IV.		
Opening	Last numb	er continued
*When Locke by Virginia	Romance..	Dram. Ex. Mel.
*When man with pistol approaches Locke	Overture ..	Hvy. Dram. Ex.
*When fighting ..	,, ..	Alleg. Agit.
*When thieves off in motor	Romance..	Ser. Dram. Mel.
Sergeant, did I get that	,, ..	Bri. Flo.
Norman is asking for you	Intermezzo	Lit. Flor.
*When aeroplane off ..	Overture ..	Alleg. Agit.
PART V.		
Opening	Last numb	er continued
*When man looks out of window	Overture ..	Alleg. Agit. (fight)
*When McCann by Locke	Intermezzo	Lit. Flor.
You can't leave here	Romance..	Lit. Flo. 3/4
*When looping loop ..	,, ..	Lit. Flo. Agit.
Say, you are just in time	Intermezzo	Lit. Flor.
Will you take this ..	March ..	Wedding
*When aeroplane off ..	Romance..	Lit. Flo.

* Action. Rest titles.

NOTE.—This film is very exciting throughout.

"THE LOVE CHEAT."

Pathé Film.

Released January 17.

Change Cues.	Style.	Nature of Number.
PART I.		
Opening	Intermezzo	Lit. Flor.
*When Henry reads letter	,, ..	Lit. Flo.
The Gordon's despite	Valse lente	Flo. Mel.
Just exactly wrong again	Intermezzo	Lit. Flor.
The Palace Hotel ..	,, ..	Lit. Flor.
*When party leave lift	Fox trot ..	Bri.
PART II.		
William West, a former chum	Valse lente	Flo. Mel.
*When waltzing stops	Intermezzo	Bri. Flor.
Why be inquisitive ..	Fox trot ..	Bri.
But they were ..	Valse ..	Flo. Mel.
*When dancing stops..	Long chord	
NOTE.—When close imitate his	up of drum business.	mer shown
*When dancer appears	Ballet ..	2/4 Bri. Dance
*When dance finished, segue	Tarantella	Bri. 6/8
*When dance finished	Short chrd. and Fox trot	Segue next number Bri.
With nothing but memories	Romance..	Slo. Flo. Mel.
When Louise enters father's office	Intermezzo	Lit. Flor.
PART III.		
Oh! he is manager ..	Intermezzo	Bri. Flor.
The campaign begins	Valse lente	Flo. Mel. (long)
Time passes	Intermezzo	Bri. Flo.
Following the dictates of	Romance..	Ser. Flo. Mel.
PART IV.		
You silly boy	Romance..	Ser. Flo. Mel.
*When Henry leaves room	,, ..	Slo. Sli. Ex.
Nice game you have played	,, ..	Slo. Flo.
*When Henry leaves office	Intermezzo	Lit. Flor. (short)
Is Mr. Calvin here ..	Romance..	Ser. Flo. Sli. Ex.
*When couple enter dining room	,, ..	Bri. Flo. Mel.
Disgusted with himself	,, ..	Slo. Flo. Mel.
PART V.		
*When couple enter shop	Romance..	Bri. Flo.
*When Henry beside Louise	,, ..	Ser. Flo. Mel.
*When customer enters	Intermezzo	Bri. Flor.
*When customer exits	Romance..	Slo. Flo. Mel.
I have been too busy	,, ..	Slo. Flo. Love Mel.

* Action. Rest titles.

NOTE.—This film is on the light side throughout.

"EVERYWOMAN."

Six Reels.

Paramount-Artcraft Film.

Released January 17.

Change Cues.	Style.	Nature of Number.	Min.
Opening	Romance..	Slo. Flo. Mel.	4½
Perchance it may be	,, ..	Ser. Slo. Flo.	
*When crowd start dancing	One Step ..	Bri. Flor. ..	2½
*When statue of Cupid seen	Romance..	Slo. Flo. Mel.	1
Therefore with the new	,, ..	Slo. Flo. 6/8	3½
Within the magic	,, ..	Slo. Flo. Mel.	1
Nobody dares to enter	Dramatic	Slo. Dram. Myst.	
While Everywoman	Intermezzo	Slo. Flo. ..	1½
*When doctor seen in hospital	Romance..	Slo. Ser. Flo. Mel.	½
*When girls seen..	Intermezzo	Bri. Flor. ..	½
*When vision of court seen	Romance..	Slo. Flo. Mel.	1
*When court fades out	Intermezzo	Slo. Flo. ..	½
Next door is the modest	Romance..	Ser. Slo. Flo.	3
*When girls seen..	,, ..	Bri. Flo. ..	1½
*When Truth dissolves into hag	Dramatic	Slo. Hvy. Myst.	2½
*When Truth dissolves back	Intermezzo	Lit. Flo. ..	1
*When doctor seen walking	Romance..	Slo. Ser. Flo.	½
And soon Everywoman, heeding	,, ..	Slo. Flo. ..	1½
*When close up of Modesty	,, ..	Slo. Flo. ..	2
The alluring spirit	Dance ..	One step Bri	1½
*When Everywoman seen	Romance..	Slo. Ser. Flo.	1½
*When Wealth and Vice seen	Dance ..	One step Bri Flor.	½
Urged on by the..	Intermezzo	Bri. Flor. ..	3½
With the afternoon	,, ..	Bri. Flo. ..	1½
And the young physician	Romance..	Slo. Ser. Flo.	1
*When Everywoman and Passion seen	,, ..	Slo. Ser. Flo.	1½
*When Passion dissolves	Dramatic	Slo. Hvy. Myst.	1
The press-agent's story	Romance..	Ser. Slo. Flo.	1½
Alas, I am in love	,, ..	Slo. Flo. ..	1½
Heedless of the warning	Dance ..	One step Bri	4
Three o'clock ..	,, ..	Fox trot ..	3½
*When Beautyseen asleep	Romance..	Slo. Myst. Dram Mel.	3
You would buy me	,, ..	Slo. Dram. Ex.	½
Dissipation has stolen beauty	,, ..	Slo. Ser. Flo. Mel.	2½
With beauty in the grasp	,, ..	Slo. Flo. Mel.	2½
I have heard of the	Intermezzo	Slo. Flor. ..	1
I'm sorry, Wealth, but	Romance..	Alleg. Mod	1
While the young physician	,, ..	Slo. Ser. Flo. Mel	½
Everywoman stakes all her	,, ..	Dram. Ex. ..	3½
*When Lord Witless shoots himself	Dramatic	Ex. Hry. Hvy.	½
*When Modesty and doctor seen	Romance..	Slo. Ser. Mel.	3½
You vulture! You unclean	Dramatic	Agit. Ex. ..	½
*When doctor seen	Romance..	Slo. Ser. Flo.	3
New year's eve ..	Intermezzo	Bri. Flo. ..	½
In the cold without	Romance..	Slo. Ser. Mel.	2½
I'm afraid I don't	,, ..	Flo. Ser. work up	1½
*When 12 o'clock seen	Bell, Segue Hymn ..	Strike 12 Band tacet O God, our help	
*When revellers seen	Few bars..	We won't go home till morning	½
*When Everywoman seen	Hymn ..	Rescue the perishing	½
*When Wealth and Vice seen	Hurry ..	Dram. Agit.	½
*When doctor and Modesty seen	Romance..	Ser. Flo. ..	½
*When close up of doctor	,, ..	Ser. Slo. Flo.	1½
To Wealth, bound for	,, ..	Very Myst. Slo.	1
*When close up of doctor and	,, ..	Slo. Ser. Flo.	½
*When Wealth seen	Dramatic	Alleg. Myst. Hvy	½
*When Truth and Everywoman seen	Romance..	Slo. Ser. Flo.	2
And you will be my	,, ..	Ser. Slo. Flo.	½

* Action. Rest titles.

New British Producing Firm.

The latest British film-producing company to commence operations is Stella Muir Productions, Ltd. With a clever and beautiful little leading lady, a well-equipped studio—situated not a hundred miles from Golders Green Tube—a producer in the person of Mr. J. Middleton, who, as the principal in a well-known London photographic business thoroughly understands the technique of photography, and an artistic and enthusiastic staff, the new firm has very bright prospects. The new company has already almost completed the numerous studio scenes in their first play, although the script was only handed to them on December 2. It is a six-reel mystery drama, and has been written by Mr. Langford Reed, the author of two subjects in which Miss Muir made her name, viz., the two recently-released films, "The Heart of a Rose" and "The Lass o' the Looms." Mr. Langford Reed has also been commissioned to write a further big scenario around Miss Muir, and is adapting an original story by Mr. K. C. Spiers. Mr. Arthur Ring and Baby Joan Mary, who both appear in "The Heart of a Rose," are also taking part in the subject now being produced.

"WANTED, A HUSBAND."

Five Reels.

Paramount-Artcraft Film.

Released January 20.

Change Cues.	Style.	Nature of Number.	Min.
Opening	Intermezzo	Lit. Flor. ..	2
Billie Burke ..	Romance..	Ser. Flo. Mel.	2½
The two happiest men	Intermezzo	Slo. Flo. Mel.	2
Meow, meow, the cats	Romance..	Slo. Flo. Mel.	1½
*When Darcy gets mail	Intermezzo	Bri. Flor. ..	1
Right across the hall	Romance..	Quiet, Flo. Mel.	2
Suddenly Darcy made up her	,, ..	Ser. Flo. Mel.	1½
In the public library	,, ..	Slo. Flo. Mel.	3½
*When Gloria takes Darcy to her	Dance ..	Fox trot, Bri.	3
Tom Harmon ..	Song .. Segue Intermezzo	Oh, what a pal was Mary Bri. Flor. ..	3
O, Gloria, did you hear	Valse lente	Bri. Flo. Mel.	4
Armed with evidence	Intermezzo	Bri. Flor. ..	2
Being put through	Valse lente	Lit. Bri. ..	2½
After some strenuous weeks	Romance..	Ser. Flo. Mel.	2½
Sir Montrose ..	,, ..	Bri. Flo. Mel.	1½
Alive to her toes	Dance ..	One-step Bri.	2½
Darcy's rather-er Flirtatious	Romance..	Ser. Flo. Mel.	1½
The reception over	Dramatic	Dram. Lit. Overt.	2½
Next day	Intermezzo	Lit. Flor. ..	3½
But where is Sir Montrose	Romance..	Ser. Flo. Mel.	1
The honeymoon express	Ballet ..	Hry. 2/4 mov.	3½
I can't thank you enough	Romance..	Slo. Flo. Mel.	2½
*When housekeeper comes down	Dramatic	Slo. Myst. pp.	2½
After dinner ..	Song ..	Love's old sweet song	2½
For a husband ..	Romance..	Slo. Ser. Flo.	1
I know you, Gentleman Jack	Agitato ..	Overt. work up	2
Jack Ranson ..	Romance..	Ser. Flo. ..	1½

* Action. Rest titles.

"HARD CASH."

SCREEN VERSION OF CHARLES READE'S NOVEL.

Production .....British Master Film
Type .....Drama
Stars .....Dick Eebb, Alma Green
Length .....Five Reels
Distributors ..Messrs. Butcher's Film Service, Ltd.

Lovers of Charles Reade's novels will welcome the screen version of one of his most famous, "Hard Cash," screened for Messrs. Butcher's, Ltd., at the Alhambra on Monday. The story is familiar. In the old days of John Company, the sailing ship "Agra" starts on its homeward run, under the charge of Captain Dodd, who is bringing with him his entire fortune, made out in India—£14,000 in "hard cash." The ship encounters many adventures, including a fight with Malay pirates; then a storm, in which the ship is wrecked off the French coast, and sinks, just as passengers and crew are safely landed. Still Captain Dodd's troubles are by no means over, for his packet of money has been seen by two village rogues. They follow the worthy seaman, but are fought off, and in time the captain reaches his home to greet his wife and daughter, and deposits the precious money in Hardie's Bank. Julia is engaged to Alfred Hardie, the son, and they are only awaiting the captain's return to obtain his consent to their marriage. Unfortunately, Hardie's fortune, like the captain's ship, is also lost "on the rocks," and when Captain Dodd hears of the suspension of the bank he rushes to the house to demand his money back. It is not forthcoming, and the shock brings on a stroke. Hardie's son, however, determines to right the wrong done by his father, but the elder man has him put away into a lunatic asylum, in order to gain time. He is murdered by one of the bank customers, and in the end Captain Dodd recovers, and succeeds in getting back his fortune, while young Hardie returns to Julia and happiness. The acting of Alma Green and Dick Webb is excellent, and the outdoor settings are good indeed. The film was preceded by one of the excellent "Movie Chats," also issued by this firm.

TRAVELLING EXHIBITIONS.

With the aid of an appliance recently introduced into this country it is now possible, with the aid of a Ford motor-car, to give an exhibition of films in the remotest village in this or any other country, even where electricity is unknown.

The device is known as the De Vry generator, and is fitted alongside the engine of the car, by which it is driven. The generator is coupled up to the dashboard of the car, and by running an electric cord from here through a window of the building to the projector, the necessary current is supplied for giving a display of pictures. This is, however, not all that can be done, for by attaching a number of globes to a "flex" inside the building the current can be switched on to light these when not required for the projector.

A demonstration given to those associated with the trade and a few representatives of the Press took place at Radlett, a quiet little residential village a few miles on the London side of St. Albans. For the exhibition of films the parish hall, which incidentally is illuminated in the ordinary way by gas, was chosen. Outside was the Ford car, equipped with the De Vry generator coupled up to a De Vry portable projector inside the building. Mr. George Palmer explained how the generator was fixed to the car, and then, after seeing how simply it was connected up to the projector, and also how easily it was to light up the hall with a number of electric globes worked off the generator, the party watched an exhibition of pictures which were exceedingly well screened, the projector being about 40ft. from the screen and giving a picture of approximately 9ft.

The De Vry is a 30-35 volt generator normally operated at one-half k.w. (500 volts) for use with the De Vry (30-volt type) projector. It is of very small size, and its fitting to a Ford car necessitates very little alteration to the engine.

Mr. George Palmer, of 47, Gerrard-street, London, W.C., is handling the De Vry generator as well as the De Vry Projector, which is now so universally known, and is being assisted by Mr. Charles Cluff.

CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITORS' ASSOCIATION.

LEICESTER BRANCH.

The Leicester Branch inaugurated their 1921 session by a meeting on Wednesday last at their offices, when the new president, Mr. R. M. Wright, took the chair.

Mr. H. H. Springett, who represented Leicester at the meeting to promote the Midland Benevolent Trade Fund scheme at Birmingham, which has for its object the assistance of all needy cases in distress of all sections of employees in the cinema industry, gave an exhaustive account of the proposed fund, and how it would be administered, and remarked that the Committee of Management would have six representatives from Birmingham, and two each from the Notts and Derby and the Leicester branches.

In the lengthy discussion that ensued, the members were of the opinion that the Notts and Derby and Leicester C.E.A. section should be equally represented with that of Birmingham. It was eventually decided that the branch were favourably inclined to the scheme on condition that both Notts and Derby and Leicester were granted an equal representation with that of Birmingham. Messrs. Springett and Philip Joseph were nominated to act as the Leicester representatives at the next meeting, which would be held at Birmingham at an early date.

A request from the Leicester Cinema Branch of the E.T.U. for a meeting of the Conciliation Board was agreed to, the meeting to take place on Friday morning.

The branch unanimously decided to nominate Councillor G. F. McDonald, of Birmingham, for the presidency of the C.E.A. Council, and Mr. Sidney Bacon, of London, for the vice-presidency.

"The Mystery Road."

A strong cast has been secured by Paul Powell for his production of Phillips Oppenheim's "The Mystery Road," for the Famous Players-Lasky British Producers. The company, which has just returned from the Riviera, where they have been doing special scenes, is headed by David Powell as Gerald Dombey, the hero; Percy Standing takes the part of Luigi, a famous tenor; Mary Glynne plays Lady Susan Farringdon; and Pardoe Woodman is cast as Dombey's friend, Christopher Went. Miss Ruby Miller is allotted the part of a dancer, whilst Miss Marion May takes the important character of Myrtle Sargot, the little peasant heroine.

Gaumont Trade Shows.

The Gaumont Company, Ltd., is announcing four trade shows for the end of January and the beginning of February as follows:—The serial, "Two Little Urchins," Tuesday, Jan. 18; the British Screencraft production, "The Way of a Man," Tuesday, Jan. 25; a comedy-drama, introducing David Butler, "Girls Don't Gamble," Tuesday, Feb. 1; and "Smiling all the Way," also featuring David Butler, Tuesday, Feb. 1. All these will be held at the West-End Cinema, commencing at 11 o'clock in the morning.

THE SHOWMAN WORLD.

The Showmen's Guild at the Cenotaph.

A notable event on New Year's Day was the visit of a large and representative number of showmen to the Cenotaph at Whitehall. The majority of the exhibitors from the Agricultural Hall joined the procession, and a magnificent floral tribute over 5ft. in height was placed by Councillor Patrick Collins, President of the Guild, on the Cenotaph, as a tribute to the memory of the sons of Showland who gave their lives in the war.

Presentation of Medallions.

On New Year's Eve a most successful gathering met in the dining-room of the Agricultural Hall, Islington, where a banquet was served under the chairmanship of Mr. T. E. Read, supported by Councillor P. Collins, President; Mr. Wm. Wilson, Chairman of the London Section of the Guild, and other officials and members. The banquet was preliminary to the presentation of medallions and certificates to the returned ex-Service members of the London and Home Counties Section of the Showmen's Guild. The toast list included "The Guild," "Our Boys," "The Ladies," and, most moving moment of the evening, the silent eloquence of the toast to the memory of "The Boys Who Did Not Come Back."

Councillor Patrick Collins made the presentation of the medallions with a few happily chosen words to each recipient, after which dancing and music were enjoyed to the full during the early hours of the New Year.

Presentation to Mr. R. J. Clasper.

A pleasant interlude in the above proceedings was the presentation to the popular and energetic secretary of the London Section of a handsome gold watch, and a silver-plated tray to Mrs. Clasper, as a mark of appreciation of their united good work for the Section.

Bolton New Year's Fair.

The two opening days of this famous Lancashire fair were favoured with perfect weather, and excellent business was enjoyed. The riding machines were present in greater variety than ever, and included such attractions as Collins's golden dragons and scenic railway, Green's gondolas, Wyatt's yachts, Bates's gondolas, Mitchell's yachts, Cockerel's scenic railway, Holdsworth's prime porkers, White's cake-walk and haunted house, Gledstone's "half-twister," Williams' razzle-dazzle, and Jarvis and Sedgwick's slips.

These were flanked by a huge array of the latest games, stalls, shooters, cokers and monkey games, all doing excellent business.

A Fourteen Years' Engagement

W. C. Burns, the well-known and highly successful theatre, variety, and picture manager and road-show "advance," is now at liberty, after a service with Bostock and Wombwell's Great United Shows of 14 years. With Messrs. Broadhead and Son, Hulme Hippodrome, he was resident manager for two years, and was also one of the Frank Macnaghten managers some years ago, and manager on tour for the Jalliff-Nelson Grand Opera Company. He also has piloted almost every circus of note.

Harold Brooks Reaches His Majority.

There was, we hear, an air of festivity in Grangers' London office on Saturday, Harold Brooks, who for over a year has held the position of assistant manager there, being heartily greeted by his colleagues on the occasion of his twenty-first birthday. Harold Brooks is well known in Birmingham film circles, where he spent a strenuous apprenticeship in the trade. Afterwards he put in several years' work in the Royal Navy, on active war service, there being few parts of the world he has not visited. As a token of their regard, Harold's London colleagues presented him with an illuminated address, every member of the staff having subscribed his name thereto.

PROVINCIAL CENTRES.

BIRMINGHAM.

GRAND.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; A. M., Mr. H. J. Crane; Mus. D., Mr. Gilbert Smith.—Daphne Pollard makes her first appearance in Birmingham at the Grand this week. Some of her methods were quite new to the local public, and, apart from the piquancy of novelty, their quicksilver liveliness was irresistible. Undeniably, the quizzical burlesque of which Daphne Pollard is a mistress gains point from the contrast between the breadth of her conceptions and the diminutiveness of her stature. Her abounding wit, her whimsical deportment, and the flair which characterises her fantastic humour, were greatly enjoyed. The excerpts she gave from "Zig-Zag," "Jov Bells," and "Jig Saw," were the best commentary on her success in revue. Leslie, Stanelli, and Edgar give a very spirited show, and the programme is further diversified with characteristic turns by Gordon Finlay, Florence Yaymen, Takio, Haydee's Marionettes, &c.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. Henry Raymond; Asst. M., Mr. Philip Giles; Mus. D., Mr. J. Clegg.—T. Elder Hearn was heartily welcomed back to vaudeville after an absence of five years. He reappears in the sketch, "The Romance of a Studio," which affords a capital vehicle for his art. Jock McKay, whose pawky mother wit from ayont the Tweed always puts the house in such merry mood, supplies some spontaneous touches of drollery. Frank and Vesta, the clever American pair; Roy Rice and Mary Werner; the Flying Banvards; and other capable artists combine to furnish a thoroughly diverting bill.

BORDESLEY GREEN ELITE.—P., Messrs. Cooke, Copeland, and Rogers; R. M., Mr. F. Simpson; Mus. D., Mr. A. Bradshaw.—With imagination and a good sense of rhythm Moss and Maachah make a very entertaining thing of their musical and dancing fantasy. Another strong feature of the programme is the acrobatic nimbleness of Mart and Pep. Their exploits in hand-to-hand balancing are very neat. Arthur Clifton, Bert Evans, and Les Donatos help to vary an attractive array of talent.

ASTON HIPPODROME.—P., Aston Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Percy Whitton; Mus. D., Mr. Griffin.—Tom E. Hughes is highly diverting; the "Rag Bag of Vanity" goes well. May Sherrard's low comedy is an acceptable contrast. Rich and Galvin dance extremely well; and O'Brien and Lady perform some amusing comedy acrobatic feats; while Sie Tahar gives a clever gymnastic and acrobatic display. Jack Tar plays rag-time violin ditties; and Grace Cunard exhibits talent as a juggler.

Boors, The Chemists, 52, New-street; 167, Broad-street; 100-101, Smallbrook-street; 266-288, Gooch-street; 171, Bloomsbury-street; 459, Moseley-road; Colmore-row and Bull-street.

GLASGOW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—M. Ds., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; B. M., Mr. Harry F. Ashton.—The holiday crowds have still further endorsed the success of "Humpty-Dumpty" here. The humour of Messrs. Will Evans and Will Fyffe, the singing and acting of Misses Nancy Benyon, Agnes Croxton, and the Sparkling Moselles, and the quartettes of the Royal Merry Four, have all their respective devotees, and altogether the production is a notable one.

KING'S.—M. Ds., Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; B. M., Mr. Hugh Macfarlane.—"A Little Dutch Girl" has proved an excellent holiday attraction here, and will rank with any of the successes of past years. Mr. Eric Thorne finds ample scope for his eccentric humour, Mr. W. Tailleur Andrews sings well, and the title part is charmingly played by Miss Dorothy Waring.

PRINCESS'S.—P., Mr. Rich. Waldon; A. M., Mr. Hugh Murdoch.—The continuous fun provided in every scene of "Peter Piper" has caused a run on the booking office for future dates, in addition to the New Year holiday crowds. Messrs. James and Peter Berningham, Bret Harte, Tommy Lorne, Johnny Mackay, George Dix, and J. C. Glenroy form a strong team of comedians, and the Misses Connie Browning, Gertie Hall, and the Sisters Maple are all good singers and clever dancers.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. K. Parry (pro tem.); A. M., Mr. H. L. Bell; Mus. D., Mr. Henry Farmer.—The amusing domestic episode, entitled "Our Home," is taken from the revue, "Jig-Saw." Fred Kitchen and Miss Gladys Horridge enact the Husband and Wife, and others on the bill are Horace Jones and Partner in "Seaside Scenes," P. F. Shine in "The Strength of the Navy," Ted Marcel, verbosity on skates; the Monks of St. Bernard, an octette of vocalists who sing old-world songs; Leslie Elliott, a girl and a piano; and Harry Moore, "tearing his way round the world."

OLYMPIA.—Ls., Artists' Agency, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. David Bowie; Mus. D., Mr. John Henderson.—Ellis Drake and company are proving a strong attraction in the Scotch comedy playlet, "Oh, Mother!" while Phil Bransby, in character songs, gives of his best. The Three Royal Gordons, vocal musical act; Charlie Hemble, Scotch comedian; Cowper Brothers, comedy jugglers; McArdle and Donald, cross-talkers; Ray Cowan, vocalist; and Neil Sidney, comedy talking juggler, complete.

METROPOLE.—The drama entitled "Married to A Rotter" is presented here by Mr. Oswald Cray's Company, and crowded houses testify to the success of the production.

Boors, The Chemists, 101, 105, Sauchiehall-street.

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; A. M., Mr. Arthur Lawrence; Mus. D., Mr. Julien H. Wilson.—Public patronage of the pantomime "Robinson Crusoe" continues to be exceedingly great.

SHAKESPEARE.—L. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Herbert M. King.—Crowded houses are the rule in regard to the O'Mara Opera Company, whose stay of ten weeks promises to be a satisfactory success. The current programme comprises "Samson and Delilah," "Trovatore," Faust," &c.

PLAYHOUSE.—P., Liverpool Repertory Company, Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. A. S. Pigott; Mus. D., Mr. Joseph Smith.—The fairy play, "Once Upon A Time," is commanding record bookings, and the work will certainly run for some considerable time.

EMPIRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; L. & M., Mr. George Manners; Mus. D., Mr. Felix Arthur.—A particularly strong programme this week attracted two large audiences on Monday evening. Foremost is the always welcome Mr. Huntley Wright, who, in conjunction with Miss Louis Stuart and Mr. A. Bromley-Devonport, is delighting with a new sketch, entitled "A Breath of Fresh Air." Du Calion, "the loquacious laddie on the tottering ladder," is as enjoyable as ever; and May Moore Duprez again affords much satisfaction with her jolly Dutch character songs. Another much-appreciated turn is that provided by Louis Douglas and Sonny Jones, the syncopated black-faced comedians; and also in the list are: the Omega Trio of novelty equilibrists, who have a capital turn; Harry Hemsley's mimicry of children is as rich as ever; and Alfred Leonard affords a treat with his violin playing; Miss Adelaine Vavery delighting with some charming dancing.

OLYMPIA.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; R. M., Mr. James M. Buchanan; Mus. D., Mr. Albert Moore.—The pantomime "Dick Whittington" continues to draw two vast audiences daily, and the public appears to have agreed that Wylie and Tate's fine production is good value.

HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Chas. Gulliver; M. & L., Mr. E. W. James; Mus. D., Mr. Frank Stokes.—Harry Day's revue, "Flashes," in which appear Tom Drew, Norah Dwyer, John Rorke, Sidney Bray, Edgar Cooke, Horace Percival, and Irene Shamrock.

ROTUNDA.—M., Mr. M. Montgomery; A. M., Mr. John Hitchens; Mus. D., Mr. George Dibbert.—A good variety bill is provided here by Trevor, West, and Hinsby, with mirth and music; Artemus, illusionist; Tom Fox, comedian; Miller and Phlora, entertainers; Joe Archer, comedian; The Big Timers, black-faced comedians and dancers; and Williams and Abbott, in "Backing a Winner."

PAVILION.—P., Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; R. M., Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; A. M., Mr. Henry Hearn; Mus. D., Mr. Harry Walker.—A capital variety bill includes: Joe Cohen and Anna Dorothy, in "Two Wise Fools"; Bessie Brenne and Walter Erard, with a musical turn; Paul Thompson, eccentric dancer; George Murphy, comedian; Lyons and Fay, patter comedians; Leslie Hatton, in coon songs; the Delson Trio, with smart comedy act; and Pan and his Girls, with dancing and acrobatic turn.

LYRIC.—L., Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; M., Mr. H. C. Arnold, junr.; Mus. D., Mr. Cleaver Howard.—The attraction this week is Ventom Swift's capital pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," in which appear Jack Murphy, Elsie Bartlett (principal boy), Ruby York, Bud Richie, Chris Baker, and Jack Audrey (Dame).

Boors, The Chemists, Boots' Corner, Church-street; 11-13, London-road; 1, Leece-street; 203, Scotland-road; 8, West Derby-road; 235, Park-road; 113, Lodge-lane; 79, Wavertree-road; Prudential Buildings, Dale-street; 45 to 47, Lord-street.

NEWCASTLE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—L., Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; M. D., Mr. F. W. Wyndham; G. M., Mr. G. T. Minshull; R. M., Mr. Wm. Whitehead.—Messrs. Howard and Wyndham's pantomime, "Red Riding Hood," continues to attract full houses, and the future bookings are exceptionally large. All the artists have now settled down in their parts, and the entertainment goes with a delightful swing.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—P., Moss' Empires, Ltd.; M. D., Mr. R. H. Gillespie; R. D., Mr. H. Thornton; M., Mr. Cecil A. Collins.—"Jack and Jill," the John Tiller pantomime, being staged here by Moss' Empires, is indeed a bright production, and it is not surprising to see "House Full" boards up at practically every performance. Messrs. George Formby and Tom D. Newell, and the Misses Lily Morris and Vanwy Chard have much to do with the happy state of affairs.

PALACE THEATRE.—P., The Palace Co. (Newcastle), Ltd.; M. D., Mr. T. W. Rowe; M., Mr. E. Naylor.—Mr. Thos. F. Convery's pantomime, "Cinderella," which did tremendous business during the past fortnight, has been followed by another of that gentleman's productions in "Red Riding Hood," also a thoroughly good entertainment. A strong cast includes Messrs. George Hyam, John Armstrong, Jack Cranston, and Joe Hudson, and the Misses Louise Earle, Betty Burgin, Elsie Maynard, and Ada Leon, as well as Coverdale's Nine Little Tiddleywinks.

HIPPODROME.—L., Variety Theatres Controlling Co.; M. D., Mr. Chas. Gulliver; G. M., Mr. W. H. Bebby.—Noni and Partner are starring here, and their comedy musicale wins warm favour. The Reynolds-Donegan Quartette prove experts at roller-skating. Chinko and Kaufman introduce smart juggling, intermixed with novel trick cycling. Morgan and Burke, acrobatic comedians; Harry Bedford, tramp singer; Arthur Gilroy, whistler, and others round off the fare.

Boors, The Chemists, 45, Northumberland-street; 83, Clayton-street; 244-46, Scotswood-road; 109, Elswick-road; 84-86, Grainger-street; 17-19, Shields-road, Byker; 121-125, Shields-road, Byker; 53-55, St. George's-terrace, Jesmond; 105-107, High-street, Gosforth.

OLDHAM

GRAND.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. H. Kilrow.—J. & L. Brennan present "Red Riding Hood," and a very funny pantomime is heartily enjoyed. Miss Brenda Byrne is a charming Red Riding Hood, Miss Ida Conroy is good as Robin Hood, Miss Lucy Brennan as Dame Trot is very successful, and Jack Byrne as Baron De Broke is excellent. Specialities by the Sisters Carlton, the Orpheus Trio, Miss Ida Conroy, Rex. Hatton, Archie O'Neill, Jack Byrne, and Miss Lucy Brennan give capital support.

PALACE.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. E. Sharrocks.—Robb Wilton, assisted by Miss Florence Palmer, is good in comedy; Payne and Hilliard, in "Snowballs"; Miss Billie Val and Partner, in song; the Tossing Testros, balancers and jugglers; Segue, musical mimic; F. V. St. Clair, in new songs; Lester Newby, character comedian; and the Palace pictures.

ROYAL.—P., Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; G. M., Mr. E. Dottridge; A. M., Mr. H. E. Moroney.—"The Story of the Rosary," by Mr. Alfred Denville's stock company, with Miss Edith Dottridge and Miss May Fairclough and Bert Bannister.

Boors, The Chemists, 40-42, Mumps; 28, Market-place.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole L. & M., Mr. E. H. Bull; Mus. D., Mr. Arthur Jackson.—Mr. Fred Terry and Miss Violet Farebrother, in "Henry of Navarre" and "Much Ado About Nothing."

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Mme. Tamara Karsavina and Co., Winston's Water Lions, Harry Green, Du Calion, Royal Southern Singers, Wentworth, Alston and Lake, Romano Brothers, Les, Tumilets, Edgar Curtis, Bioscope.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE, KINGSWAY. (London Opera House.)

Pictures and Varieties.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Olive Dene, Fred Stafford, "No Man's Land," Pierce and Roslyn, Albert Broughton, Ernest Drake, Dorothy McBlain, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Dare Austin, Harry Moore, Rinaldo, Ina Hild, Adam Tomlinson, Will Gardner, Bioscope

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Pastor and Merle, Mark Coney, Rameses, Tex McLeod, Frank and Vesta, Miles-Stavordale Quintette, Bioscope.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Daisy Griff, Fred Russell, Wilf Burnand, Chris Richards, Gilbert and French, The Mountfords, The D'Ormondes, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
"Aladdin."

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Henry D. Adams, Dollie and Billie, Donaldson Weedon and Co., De Alma, Armstrong and Howarth, Marjorie Fulton, Bioscope.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Wyn and Ivy, Omega Trio, Bichette Winifred Ward, Bromley Carter, Bioscope

MANCHESTER HIPPO.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
David Poole, Corri and Cervi, Patman's Organ, Lole and "Her," Bioscope.
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Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
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NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

14 BAND PARTS REQUIRED for all Theatres except The London Coliseum which requires at least 20, including 4 first Violin Parts, 2 second Violin Parts, separate Cello and Bass Parts, full Wood, Wind and Brass, Conductor. (Harp and Organ if required).

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Sir Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
C. B. Cochran's Production,
"League of Notions."

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.15.
Horace Hunter.
Lily Hammersley and Co. present "The Red Hand."
Madame Lucille and Co. The Three Jees.
Tom Costello. Jack Warman.
Cecil and Ian Law. Billy Zona and Milroy.
Bioscope.

CHELSEA PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12.
George Wayne's Pantomime,
"Babes in the Wood."

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Joe Elvin and Company. Gee Gee Chaplin.
Carton Andrews and Wray. Wilfred Essex.
Arthur Pond. Ivy de Verne. Alpho.
Carvet and Verena. Bioscope.

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
George Wayne's Pantomime,
"Jack and the Beanstalk."

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Ching Wu. Lake and Barrasford.
Empire Operatic Quartette. Neil Melvin.
John Luxton. De Lilo Sisters. The De Meurs.
Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Joe Collins to present Pantomime,
"Sinbad the Sailor."

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Jack Cromo to present Pantomime,
"Humpty Dumpty."

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Lake and Barrasford. The Three Vincents
Daimler and Eadie. Dorothy Venton.
Benson Gray. The Jacowlews.
The Gleesome Singers. Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
R. C. Jenkins to present Pantomime,
"Dick Whittington."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artists without prejudice.

Bill matter to be sent direct to the Manager of each hall three weeks prior to the date of opening.

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ATLAS-VULCANA GIRLS.
Jan. 10, Princess Theatre, Belfast.

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